
Economy & Efficiency Commission Meeting Minutes

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING ECONOMY AND EFFICIENCY COMMISSION

WEDNESDAY, JULY 8, 1999
ROOM 830, KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION

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 OF THE COMMISSION MEETING

With the presence of a quorum of commissioners Chairman Abel called the Commission meeting to order at 10:15 a.m.

II. APPROVAL OF COMMISSIONER'S ABSENCES

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

David A. Abel
Fred Balderrama
Hope J. Boonshaft
Ben Breslauer
John Crowley
David W. Farrar
Jonathan Fuhrman
Chris Hammond
Michael Jimenez
Chun Lee
Tony Lucente
Carol Ojeda-Kimbrough
Roman Padilla
Robert Philiposian
H. Randall Stoke

COMMISSIONERS REQUESTING TO BE EXCUSED

Richard D. Barger
William J. Petak
Marc A. Seidner
Julia E. Sylva
Tony Tortorice

COMMISSIONERS NOT REQUESTING AN EXCUSE

None

QUALITY AND PRODUCTIVITY COMMISSION LIAISON

Jaelyn Tilley Hill

It was Moved, Seconded and Adopted: **The Commission members noted above be excused.**

IV. INTRODUCTIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Raymond Chen introduced himself as being an intern in Supervisor Knabe's Office.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

1. Suggestion to hold a joint conference on "Best Practices" with the Quality and Productivity Commission

Quality and Productivity Co-Chair Hill made a presentation on the proposal to hold a joint conference with the Economy and Efficiency commission on "Best Practices" with the possible participation of Los Angeles City. The purpose of the conference would be to increase productivity, improve the efficiency, to save money and to improve the quality of public services in the greater Los Angeles Region. This conference would be structured with a project manager brief the conference on the best practice with the objective of defining the transferability to other jurisdictions. The costs for the conference would be split between the sponsoring commissions.

Concerning the issue of collaboration within the county a joint letter was recently sent to the Board of Supervisors recommending that:

1. Collaborative efforts should be tied to an overall strategy.
2. The County should allocate resources for leadership and management training
3. Employees should be educated on the County and their role in the broader system.

Chairman Abel asked about the contribution of the Economy and Efficiency to these efforts. Q&P Co-Chair Hill responded that the proposal would bring forth management practices that would be of value to the County and other jurisdictions. Chairman Abel stated that the Commission should wait until the Board responds to the letter that has been sent to them and respond accordingly. Commissioner Padilla asked about a possible timeframe for this proposal. Q&P Co-Chair Hill stated that the timeframe would be established by the conference sponsors. Commissioner Padilla also asked about whether participants would be invited from agencies outside of the County. Q&P Co-Chair Hill felt that the objectives of the conference would dictate the participation.

V. OLD BUSINESS

Chairman Abel asked if there were any questions or comments that should be brought up to either of the individuals making presentations today. Commissioner Farrar commented that he felt that the County was on track on the asset management project. Q&P Co-Chair Hill commented that with the turnaround in the Los Angeles Area economy, the Commission should be concerned over the institution of prudent practices to insure that this situation does not reoccur in the future.

Commissioner Stoke referred to a Chief Administrative Officer's report to the Board that appeared not as substantive as it could have been in how the County would achieve its goals in this area. Commissioner Farrar agreed with Commissioner Stoke and felt that the report that was referenced was essentially a restatement of previous work. The County's Asset Management Task Force has come to the conclusion that continuing to negotiate on the plan's content is not as important as actually doing something.

The strategy to deal with this situation has been to put the Task Force in a position of constant oversight. The purpose of this group would be to guide the Chief Administrative Office with regard to the implementation of their plans. He hopes that the Board will approve both the asset management plan as presented, and the establishment of the Asset Management Task Force as a permanent body. Q&P Co-Chair Hill commented that the Task Force anticipates that the work that will be done in coordination will be slow, but steady. Commissioner Padilla asked if there were any controlling state legislation on this matter. Commissioner Farrar responded that 80% of the things that are wrong are

inherited process that are not prescribed in the statutes. Twenty Percent of the things that are wrong are a reaction to statutory prescriptions with respect to public contracting, requests for proposal (RFP), etc. Discussions with County Counsel indicate an enthusiasm about changing applicable statutes to make the system more efficient. Commissioner Stoke felt that it was important to emphasize the interest of the Commission in this area.

7. Grand Jury Implementation

Vice Chairman Breslauer informed the Commission that a letter had been sent to the Sheriff's Department and a response was received. The letter asked for a response to the 1995-96 Grand Jury's recommended that 100 Deputy Sheriffs be replaced by Custody Assistants and that this action be quantified. The Sheriff reported that based upon 431 conversions that the one-time savings were in the range of \$8 million and the on-going was approximately \$11.5 million. The Sheriff also explained that, per an agreement with the deputy's union, that 35% of the positions could be held by Custody Assistants with 31% currently in place. He felt that Men's Central was short of the Grand Jury recommendations. Vice Chairman Breslauer felt that the Sheriff could have provided additional information on the plans of the Sheriff to implement the civilianization program within the Department He asked how the Commission want to pursue this matter further. Chairman Abel asked for a recommendation of the Task Force in how to proceed. It was determined that the Task Force would have a follow-up meeting to make a recommendation to the Commission at the next meeting as to further action.

Commissioner Philibosian asked whether the Commission would be discussing any reaction to the current Grand Jury Report. Chairman Abel felt that it would be preferable for the current Grand Jury Task screen the recommendations and make recommendations back to the full Commission.

VI. PRESENTATION (a)

[Tyler McCauley, Assistant Auditor Controller, Los Angeles County](#)
Topic: Follow-up on the EEC Debt Management Report

Mr. McCauley made comments to the Commission concerning the scope of the follow-up efforts that the County has taken in response to the Commission's Receivables Management Report.

III. CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

At this point the Minutes of the June 2, 1999 Commission meeting were Moved, Seconded and Adopted: **The minutes of the June 2, 1999 Commission meeting be approved.**

VII. NEW BUSINESS (Cont)

Chairman Abel took a straw poll as to those commissioners that would be available for the August Commission meeting. Based upon the response Chairman proposed not having an August meeting, the next meeting to be on September 9, 1999. During this meeting the Grand Jury Task Force will report back on the status of their efforts.

VI. PRESENTATION (b)

[Mr David Janssen, Chief Admionistrative Officer, Los Angeles County](#)
Topic: The Adopted County Budget

Mr. Janssen made a presentation to the Commission concerning the nature of the County's adopted budget and the ramifications that this budget has to the operations of the County.

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Upon a motion from the floor, *Chairman Abel* adjourned the meeting at 11:55 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted.



Bruce J. Staniforth
Executive Director

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