

LOS ANGELES COUNTY
ECONOMY AND EFFICIENCY COMMISSION

ROOM 163, HALL OF ADMINISTRATION / 500 WEST TEMPLE / LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012 / 974-1491

Dr. Warren H. Schmidt, Chairperson
Gloria Starr, Vice Chairperson

M I N U T E S
FULL COMMISSION MEETING

January 10, 1979

George E. Bodle
Dr. Catherine G. Burke
John D. Byork
Margaret Paterson Carr
Anne S. Collins
Dorothy Avila Courtney
Dr. Mario Di Giovanni
Dr. Carolyn L. Ellner
Jerry Epstein
Milton G. Gordon
Richard S. Gunther
Mary Jane Kidd
Leo A. Majich
Lauro J. Neri
Robert Ruchti, II
Luis A. Ruiz, CLU
George Shellenberger
Bryan Walker

Burke Roche
Executive Secretary
John Campbell
Staff Specialist
Maxlynn Larsen
Commission Secretary

Members Present:

Warren Schmidt, Chairperson
Gloria Starr, Vice Chairperson
Catherine Burke
John Byork
Margaret Carr
Anne Collins
Dorothy Courtney
Mario Di Giovanni
Carolyn Ellner
Jerry Epstein
Richard Gunther
Mary Jane Kidd
Leo Majich
Lauro Neri
Robert Ruchti II
Luis Ruiz
George Shellenberger
Bryan Walker

Members Absent:

George Bodle
Milton Gordon

Warren Schmidt called the meeting to order at 9:45 a.m. He advised that the agenda would be rearranged because the copies of the report on government structure had not yet arrived from the printer.

Approval of Minutes - Margaret Carr asked that the December 13 minutes be corrected on page 2 to read "Proposition 13", not "Proposition B", in reference to the task force she recommended. The minutes were approved as corrected.

Nominations for Commission Chairperson - In accordance with commission operating procedures ballots were passed out for the members to list their first, second and third choices for chairperson. The staff will later tabulate the choices - five points for first place, three points for second, and one point for third. The three persons receiving the highest points are nominated. The election will be held at the February meeting.

Presentation of the Task Force Report on Government Structure - Copies of the report arrived and were distributed.

Warren Schmidt gave a short introduction before presenting Catherine Burke. He said that the report is a response to the public's feeling about government. People believe that government is too costly, too unresponsive and too complex. The report represents a vision, something to move toward. It presents the first steps to make government more responsive, efficient and effective. The report invites discussion and we will continue to solicit comments.

Catherine Burke presented a detailed summary of the report. She described and emphasized the problems which the present system of 1,604 public agencies in the five county metropolitan area creates - problems of duplication, of size, of financing, and of complexity. She then described alternative solutions, including the commission's recommendations leading to a federated structure. She emphasized the difficulty and the time it will take to achieve an effective federated structure, but concluded that until we begin to move toward this goal government cannot perform its role as the facilitator in solving the immensely complex social, economic and environmental problems facing us.

Warren Schmidt recessed the meeting at 10:45 a.m. to answer questions from the press and television media. He reconvened the meeting at 10:58 and asked commission members for their comments. The members were in unanimous support of the task force report. Jerry Epstein emphasized the importance of getting the message to the public. Carolyn Ellner agreed that the commission should work with civic groups and public officials to pursue the program. John Byork strongly endorsed the recommendations on LAFCO actions and the importance of eliminating the unincorporated islands and forcing cities to annex undesirable areas.

Catherine Burke said the task force will continue to solicit comments and examine reactions leading to public hearings or conferences and addendums to the report. She then moved to adopt the report for circulation and discussion. Warren Schmidt asked that the motion read "To adopt for circulation, discussion and invitation of comments." Motion adopted unanimously.

George Shellenberger recommended that copies of the report be sent to the Los Angeles County delegation in the legislature. The commission agreed.

New Task Force Assignments and Activities - Warren Schmidt announced that he had formulated a list of task force assignments, including both continuing task forces and new task forces. After reviewing the list, the commission agreed on the following assignments.

Economy and Efficiency Commission Task Forces

CONTINUING

1. Community Relations

Carolyn Ellner, Chairperson
George Bodle
Margaret Carr
Jerry Epstein
Milton Gordon

2. Government Structure

Catherine Burke, Chairperson
Dick Gunther
Anne Collins
Mario Di Giovanni
Milton Gordon
Mary Jance Kidd
Luis Ruiz
George Shellenberger
Gloria Starr

3. Civil Service and Personnel Administration

John Byork
Catherine Burke
Margaret Carr
Dorothy Courtney
Robert Ruchti
Gloria Starr
Bryan Walker

*New chairperson to be named at
next meeting of Task Force

FOLLOW-UP TASK FORCES

4. Proposition 13

Margaret Carr, Chairperson
Anne Collins
Milton Gordon
Luis Ruiz
George Shellenberger

5. Proposition A (private contracting)

Dick Gunther, Chairperson
Jerry Epstein
Leo Majich
Bob Ruchti
Carolyn Ellner

*Supervisor Peter
Scharabum will
attend the first
meeting

EXPLORATORY TASK FORCE

6. Status of FIRM (Financial Information and Resource Management System)

Lauro Neri, Chairperson
Mario Di Giovanni
Bryan Walker
Jerry Epstein

Warren Schmidt adjourned the meeting at 11:27 a.m.