

**ECONOMY AND EFFICIENCY COMMISSION
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
May 7, 2026**

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.

1. CALL TO ORDER

With the presence of a quorum of commissioners, Vice-Chair Everard called the Commission meeting to order at 10:38 am.

2. OF APPROVAL COMMISSIONER'S ABSENCES

The following was the attendance for the meeting:

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

Benjamin Everard
Jacob Haik
Cathy Hood
Steven Lei
Peter Lyons
Katherine McKeon
Stephen Pritchard
John Anthony Schmitz
Connie Sullivan
Joshua Yahr
Vasken Yardemian

COMMISSIONERS REQUESTING TO BE EXCUSED

Aaron Greenberg
Jordan Greer
Teresa Dreyfuss
Thomas Liu
Dora Sandoval
Irene Shandell-Taylor
Craig Taubman
Jennifer Williams
Cesar Zaldivar-Motts

3. APPROVAL OF MARCH 5th, & APRIL 2, 2026, MINUTES

Chair Haik asked if there were any objections or changes to the minutes of the March 5, 2026 & April 7, 2026, Commission meeting. Hearing no changes, the motion was Moved, Seconded, and Adopted. The minutes of the March and April 2026 Commission meetings were approved.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

5. NEW BUSINESS

Election of Chairperson 2026

As the Nominating Committee's Chairperson, Commissioner Greer reported that Administrative Assistant Pittmon coordinated a telephone conference call with representatives from each of the Supervisorial Districts:

1. Commissioner Schmitz-1st District
2. Commissioner Greer-2nd District
3. Commissioner Lei-3rd District
4. Commissioner Sullivan-4th District
5. Commissioner Lyons-5th District

Administrative Assistant Pittmon stated that the representatives unanimously nominated Commissioner Ben Everard for his first term to serve as chair for 2026.

Chair Haik then asked if there were any floor nominations. Hearing none, he asked if Commissioner Everard accepted the nomination from the committee. Commissioner Everard accepted the nomination. Chair Haik then asked for a motion to formally nominate Commissioner Everard to serve as Chair for 2026. The motion was then moved, seconded, and approved. By acclamation, Chair Haik declared Commissioner Everard as Chairperson for 2026.

Chair Everard expressed his gratitude to the nominating committee and their leadership for nominating him to serve as the E&E Commission Chair in 2026. He also stated his intention to appoint Vice-Chair, Commissioner McKeon, as his successor, subject to her acceptance.

Commissioner McKeon graciously accepted the nomination for Vice-Chair and expressed her willingness to serve on the Executive Committee of the Commission in the role of Vice-Chair.

Chair Everard expressed his gratitude to Chair Haik and Administrative Assistant Pittmon for their unwavering efforts in ensuring the smooth operation of the Commission and their dedication to enhancing its reputation. He conveyed his desire to commence his term by urging all commissioners to respond promptly to emails concerning attendance matters, thereby minimizing the risk of lacking a quorum. Additionally, he expressed his aspiration to elevate the Commission's initiatives by engaging more actively with the upcoming 2028 Olympics and exploring potential avenues to assist the County in improving the efficiency of the project. He extended his appreciation to all Commissioners for their support and nominations.

He expressed his gratitude towards Commissioner Haik and acknowledged all the achievements accomplished during his tenure as Chair of the Commission.

Commissioner Haik expressed his gratitude to the Commission for the honor of serving as Chair over the past two years. He remarked that it has been a valuable experience and expressed pride in the achievements accomplished during his tenure. He extended his appreciation to all Commissioners for their diligent efforts, acknowledging the excellent work by all members. He also conveyed confidence that the Commission will reach new levels of success under the leadership of Commissioner Ben Everard.

As the new Commission Chairperson, Commissioner Evsterard stated that the Commission would also like to nominate Commissioner Haik as the Chair Emeritus of the Commission. Commissioner Haik accepted the Chair-Emeritus nomination.

Chair Everard then asked for a motion to approve the nomination of Commissioner Jacob Haik as Chair Emeritus. It was Moved, Seconded, and Approved. By acclamation, Chair Everard declared Commissioner Haik Chair Emeritus.

6. **Guest Speaker**

There was no presentation.

REPORTS

i. CCJCC

Commissioner Hood indicated that there was nothing new to report.

ii. E&E COMMISSION PROJECTS

Administrative Assistant Pittmon will send out a date and time for upcoming task force meetings with each task force. Administrative Assistant Pittmon stated that the task force meetings would be on MS Teams. She also noted that each task force will rotate in-person meetings after the Commission meetings.

AI Task Force: Cathy Hood (3rd), John Schmitz (2nd), Steven Lei (3rd), Thomas Liu (3rd), Ben Everard (5th), Connie Sullivan (4th), Aaron Greenberg (2nd), Irene Shandell-Taylor (CGJ).

Commissioner Hood announced that the task force held a meeting which she was unable to attend due to work-related commitments. Commissioner Yahr stated that the task force attempted to convene but was unable to access the meeting link. He further mentioned that the task force agreed to convene every second Wednesday at 12:30. Commissioner Hood expressed a preference to organize the meeting via Zoom rather than MS Teams to avoid any further access issues.

A brief discussion was held regarding artificial intelligence and the potential benefits for the County of Los Angeles in utilizing it within the Commissions and Committees. Additionally, there was an in-depth discussion regarding the extent of the task force's intentions to explore the project. The task force expressed their intention to conduct multiple meetings with various departments and the public sector to ascertain how they employ AI and whether it has proven beneficial.

Commissioner Sullivan stated that the Auditor Controller prepared a report on workforce enhancement, which includes a section on artificial intelligence (AI). She noted that a survey regarding AI was conducted within the county, and that a link to this report is provided within her documentation.

Rental Assistance Task Force: Jennifer Williams (2nd), Craig Taubman (1st), Cathy Hood (3rd), John Schmitz (1st), Dora Sandoval (4th), Katie McKeon (2nd), Aaron Greenberg (2nd).

Chair-Emeritus Haik stated that the Rental Assistance Task Force is presently on hold.

Hiring & Onboarding Task Force: Katie McKeon (2nd), Connie Sullivan (4th), Thomas Liu (3rd), Jordan Greer (2nd)

Administrative Assistant Pittmon reported that the report has been disseminated to all Board Offices and Department Heads for review. She further indicated that, as of now, there have been no follow-up questions.

Return to Work Task Force: Connie Sullivan (4th), Peter Lyons (5th)

Commissioner Sullivan concisely summarized the progress of the task force to date. She noted that the task force was prepared to receive approval from the Commission to proceed with formatting and to distribute the report to all Department Heads and Board Offices.

7. PRESENTATION

There was no presentation.

8. COMMISSIONERS' ANNOUNCEMENT

Commissioner McKeon announced that her brother has recently been appointed as a firefighter for Los Angeles County. She mentioned that he will be the fourth generation of firefighters in her family. The Commission congratulated her brother on his new endeavors.

9. STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS

Administrative Assistant Pittmon stated that she recently got engaged, and the Commission congratulated her and wished her well.

She also indicated her intention to reschedule the July 2026 meeting to the second week of July, considering the holiday and travel commitments of most Commissioners. She stated that she will report back to the Commission by the next meeting if the room is available.

Administrative Assistant Pittmon stated that she would like to schedule the next guest speaker for the month of September due to the commissioner's absence.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Everard adjourned the meeting at 11:39 am.

Respectfully Submitted,



Executive Assistant, Aisha Pittmon

