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Economy & Efficiency Commission Meeting Minutes

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING ECONOMY AND EFFICIENCY COMMISSION

THURSDAY, September 5, 2002
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 COMMISSION MEETING

With the presence of a quorum of commissioners, Chairman Philibosian called the Commission meeting to order at 10:20 a.m.

II. APPROVAL OF COMMISSIONER'S ABSENCES

Chairman Philibosian asked for a motion to approve absences.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

Fred Balderrama
Isaac Diaz Barcelona
Annie E. Cho
Jonathan Fuhrman
Jaclyn Tilley Hill
Ronald K. Ikejiri
Tony Lucente
William J. Petak
Robert H. Philibosian
Clinton Simmons
Julia Sylva

COMMISSIONERS REQUESTING TO BE EXCUSED

Clayton Anderson
Hope J. Boonshaft
John Crowley
Chun Lee
Royal F. Oakes
Roman Padilla
G. Thomas Thompson

Tony Tortorice

COMMISSIONERS NOT REQUESTING AN EXCUSE

Joanne Baltierrez

It was Moved, Seconded, and Adopted: The Commission members requesting an excuse, be excused.

III. APPROVAL OF JULY 11, 2002 MINUTES

Chairman Philibosian asked if there were any corrections or amendments to the minutes. Hearing none the following motion was Moved, Seconded, and Adopted: The minutes of the July 11, 2002 Commission meeting be approved.

IV. APPROVAL OF JULY 11, 2002 PRESENTATION

Chairman Philibosian asked if there were any corrections or amendments to the presentation. Hearing none the following motion was Moved, Seconded, and Adopted: The presentation of the July 11, 2002 Commission meeting be approved.

V. INTRODUCTIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Staniforth introduced his new administrative assistant, Leah Hulce, to the Commission.

VI. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman Philibosian announced that he has appointed Commissioner Ikejiri to the Economic Development Task Force. Chairman Philibosian also noted that he has been asked to meet with the Grand Jury on October 21, 2002 to provide them with information about the Commission. In addition, Commissioner Thompson has been appointed to the Los Angeles Police Hearing Board and Commissioner Baltierrez has been re-appointed to this Commission by Supervisor Yaroslavsky. The speaker for the October Commission meeting will be Dr. Garthwaite the Director of the Department of Health Services.

VII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Staniforth stated that on August 23, he briefed the Grand Jury on the Emancipation Services Report. They discussed the problems being faced by the department and he recommended that they speak with Dr. Sharon Watson of CAO and Chairman Philibosian. Commissioner Fuhrman asked if Mr. Staniforth had advised Commissioner Thompson of the meeting with the Grand Jury. Mr. Staniforth responded that he had advised the Chairman. He also commented that the Grand Jury had specifically asked for him as the staff person to make the presentation.

Commissioner Lucente mentioned that the web site is being revised, primarily the navigation and design. It is now fully populated with all the Commission reports. These changes will make the information on the web site more accessible to the public.

Commissioner Petak inquired if the Grand Jury staff could not have found out about the Commission and its work before they did. It was mentioned that apparently the current Grand Jury did not look at reports that had been sent to the previous Grand Jury. Chairman Philibosian suggested that the Commission send a letter when a new Grand Jury is sworn in introducing the Commission and attaching any reports that were sent to their immediate predecessor Grand Jury and notifying them of the information on our web site. Chairman Philibosian directed the Executive Director to prepare a letter to the current Grand Jury with brochures of the Commission, a summary of the Commission, a list of reports the Commission presented to their immediate predecessor Grand Jury with 1 set of those reports, the web site address and the information that all Commission reports are on the web site, and if they have any questions, they should contact the Executive Director.

Chairman Philibosian asked if the immediate past chair of the Grand Jury should now be coming on to the Commission and suggested that a month's overlap with Commissioner Simmons would be advisable. Commissioner Simmons is due to leave the Commission in the next month or two. Mr. Staniforth stated that the Board takes the action to appoint the past chair of the Grand Jury to the Commission. Chairman Philibosian directed the Executive Director to contact the staff of the Board Chairman's office and request that the Board appoint the new past chair to the Commission quickly. Commissioner Simmons suggested that the past chair, John Lewis, be invited to sit in on the Commission meetings pending his appointment. Chairman Philibosian directed the Executive Director to send a letter to Mr. Lewis inviting him to attend the next Commission meeting while awaiting his appointment. This would allow for an overlap with the term of Commissioner Simmons.

Mr. Staniforth announced that copies of the Grand Jury report are available after the meeting for anyone who didn't receive a copy.

Mr. Staniforth announced that Chairman Philibosian is a representative of the E&EC to the Independent Citizens' Oversight Committee. There was a meeting last week on requesting a special tax increase for the Fire Department. Chairman Philibosian stated that he is waiting for further information from the cities that would be affected by this tax increase prior to signing the letter recommending approval. Commissioner Ikejiri commented that the Gardena City Council doesn't want the increase, but that they feel stuck with it for the next 9 years due to their contract. Chairman Philibosian will consider the input from the contract cities and then will decide on whether to support this tax increase.

Mr. Staniforth announced that the regular November meeting room has been pre-empted by the Board. As a result, we will meet in Conference Room 140.

Commissioner Fuhrman asked if Mr. Staniforth had set up a meeting for the Emancipation Task Force with the new director of DCFS. Mr. Staniforth responded that he had spoken with Dr. Watson of the CAO to get some feedback from her before requesting a meeting with Ms. Marjorie Kelly, Interim Director, DCFS. Dr. Watson said that Ms. Kelly is in the process of hiring a new deputy and has been busy. Dr. Watson has not met with Ms. Kelly yet and asked that the Commission hold off meeting with Ms. Kelly until the CAO has met with her. The CAO expected to meet with Ms. Kelly within the next couple of weeks.

VIII. LIAISON REPORTS

Local Government Services Commission

A liaison from the Local Government Services Commission has not been appointed to this Commission.

Quality and Productivity Commission

Commissioner Waddell stated that he will be unable to make the next Commission meeting to hear about Health Services since he will be on vacation at that time.

The award for the Q & P Commission's special grant was won by the District Attorney for a system of digitizing records and streamlining operations. The theme of the upcoming awards ceremony is measurement. The Q & P Commission is adding an award for a system of measurement. The ultimate goal of this award is to produce a measurement system which captures the effectiveness of a major section of a department if not necessarily an entire department. The measurement system would deal with such areas as results, productivity (input/output ratios), quality (including customer service) and timeliness. This first award is aimed at getting the attention of the departments, it was hoped that this would start the departments working toward the ultimate goal.

IX. OLD BUSINESS - TASK FORCE REPORTS

Emancipation Services Task Force

The task force chair was not present and thus no report was made.

Grand Jury

Commissioner Hill stated that the Task Force sent out requests to the CAO, CIO and Auditor/Controller for review and comment on its draft document. The Executive Director received a favorable comment from Dr. Janssen, the CAO. Mr. Staniforth will discuss the CAO's comments to further clarify his position with Dr. Janssen. It is expected that by next month meetings will occur and the Task Force will hear back from the CIO and Auditor/ Controller. The comments will be incorporated into the document. After receiving these comments and getting input from the Task Force, the report will be ready for distribution to the entire Commission.

X. PRESENTATION (a)

[Dr. David Janssen, Chief Administrative Officer](#)
[County of Los Angeles](#)
[Topic: County Budget Status](#)

Dr. Janssen discussed the state of the Los Angeles County budget. He discussed the history of the new budget and the rationale behind it.

XI. NEW BUSINESS

Former Commissioner David Farrar was awarded a retirement scroll to honor his contribution to the Commission. Former Commissioner Farrar commented that he hopes to make an impact in his new position as Chairman, Community Redevelopment Agency. He commented that his experience on this Commission has been very helpful in preparing him to be more effective in his new position.

Organization & Accountability Task Force

The task force chair was not present and thus no report was made.

Economic Development

Commissioner Sylva said that the Task Force met that morning and discussed relationships with the cities within Los Angeles County. The Task Force wants to work with the COG (Council of Governments) and cities in the County which all have an economic development agenda. Mr. Staniforth will be contacting these organizations to start working on developing a dialog with them. The Task Force is also trying to get a liaison from the Local Government Service Commission to work with them. It was requested that Mr. Staniforth contact the Local Government Service Commission requesting a liaison for this Commission.

Commissioner Sylva stated that she and the Executive Director had attended a County meeting on economic development. Mr. Staniforth will continue to attend County meetings that further economic development within the County. There will also be some meetings with external organizations. The Task Force spoke with Commissioner Bill Petak about possibly including USC because they have an extensive economic development agenda.

XIII. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no members of the public attending the meeting.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

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

Respectfully Submitted.



Bruce J. Staniforth
Executive Director

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Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, Room 163, 500 West Temple St.,
Los Angeles, CA 90012
Phone (213) 974-1491 FAX (213) 620-1437 [EMail eecomm@co.la.ca.us](mailto:EMail_eecomm@co.la.ca.us)
WEB eec.co.la.ca.us