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## **Economy & Efficiency Commission Meeting Minutes**

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### **MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING ECONOMY AND EFFICIENCY COMMISSION**

THURSDAY, September 6, 2001  
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 10:10 a.m.

#### **II. APPROVAL OF COMMISSIONER'S ABSENCES**

Chairman Philibosian asked for a motion to approve absences.

#### **COMMISSIONERS PRESENT**

Joanne Baltierrez  
Isaac Diaz Barcelona  
Annie E. Cho  
John Crowley  
David W. Farrar  
Jonathan Fuhrman  
Jaclyn Tilley Hill  
Chun Lee  
Tony Lucente  
William J. Petak  
Royal F. Oakes  
Robert H. Philibosian  
Julia Sylva  
G. Thomas Thompson  
Tony Tortorice

#### **COMMISSIONERS REQUESTING TO BE EXCUSED**

Clayton Anderson  
Fred Balderrama  
Hope J. Boonsaft

Roman Padilla  
H. Randall Stoke

### **COMMISSIONERS NOT REQUESTING AN EXCUSE**

None

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

### **III. APPROVAL OF July 12, 2001 MINUTES**

Chairman Philibosian asked if there were any corrections or amendments to the minutes or presentation. Hearing none the following motion was Moved, Seconded, and Adopted: The minutes and presentation of the July 12, 2001 Commission meeting be approved.

### **IV. APPROVAL OF July 12, 2001 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 12, 2001 Commission meeting be approved.

### **V. INTRODUCTIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Commissioner Sylva discussed with the Commission potential speakers for the November 1st E&E Commission Meeting. Commissioner Sylva stated that she would coordinate with Los Angeles County/City Administrators, Mr. Howard Chambers from the City of Lakewood and Mr. Sam Olivito, the Executive Director of the California Contract Cities Association, who agreed to invite an administrator from a small, medium and large city. Chairman Philibosian remarked that recommendations for the choice of speakers should be given to himself and Commissioner Sylva for final approval. Chairman Philibosian asked for recommendations for a speaker in December. Commissioner Sylva answered that she would recommend Mr. Carlos Jackson, Executive Director of the Economic Development Commission, which oversees the redevelopment agencies, community development block grants, as well as state and federal funds related to housing. Commissioner Oakes concurred. Chairman Philibosian asked Commissioner Sylva to invite Carlos Jackson to speak at the December Commission meeting.

Commissioner Crowley suggested that as the Commission receives reports from any of the task forces, more time should be devoted in deliberation on the objectives, procedures and goals. Chairman Philibosian concurred.

Mr. Staniforth introduced Mr. Clinton Simmons, the 2000 – 2001 Civil Grand Jury Foreman, who will soon be appointed by the Board of Supervisors replacing Commissioner Anderson. Mr. Simmons stated that he had some disagreement with the Report on the Review of The Effectiveness of the Los Angeles County Grand Jury. Chairman Philibosian suggested that Mr. Simmons address his issues to the Grand Jury Task Force. Mr. Simmons continued by saying that he had served as foreman on the first bifurcated Civil Grand Jury in the County of Los Angeles, is a community activist, has an advanced engineering degree from the aerospace industry, retired from the Jet Propulsion Lab in 1996, spent 42 months in the U. S. Air Force, and is a member of the Los Angeles County Aviation Commission. Chairman Philibosian welcomed the pending appointment of Mr. Simmons to the Commission.

### **VI. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Mr. Staniforth remarked that Ms. Gill had suggested using e-mail to distribute the agenda package to the commissioners. Commissioner Sylva asked whether the idea meets the regulations of the Brown Act. Mr. Staniforth stated that the hard copies would still be posted and the Board of Supervisors would receive their copies; however this would allow the commissioners to receive their agenda package two days faster. Chairman Philibosian stated that if the commissioners receive it by e-mail then a hard copy package still needed to be assembled. If any of the commissioners want to receive the agenda package by e-mail only, they could advise the Executive Director. Commissioner Tortorice replied that he would like to get both. Mr. Staniforth stated that receiving both is not a problem.

Mr. Staniforth stated that he has continued to enter the E&E Commission reports on the Web Site. There are 15 (+/-) out of 136 reports remaining to be posted.

Commissioner Barcelona asked if he could photograph the Chairman and the Chairs of the Task Forces for a story that he is writing. Chairman Philibosian agreed to the photographs after the meeting.

### **VII. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Chairman Philibosian reported that Mr. Staniforth and he met with the Civil Grand Jury at their request. Now residing in their upgraded quarters located in the Criminal Court's Building, and the grand juror's were a receptive audience. Two or three of the grand jurors had read the E & E Commission's report on the Review of the Effectiveness of the Los Angeles County Grand Jury. Mr. Staniforth gave them a list of all the E & E Commission's Reports, will provide the grand jurors supplemental information on the Commission and will send them 25 more copies of the Report.

To insure that everyone understands the temporary and project oriented nature of each task force, Chairman Philibosian suggested that the task forces should use project names rather than generic ones for greater understanding by people outside the Commission.

Chairman Philibosian discussed the possibility of a Workmen's Compensation Task Force, which would study their present practices and procedures. Workmen's Compensation activities may not be adequately supervised as to the legitimacy of claims, or claims' handling. Chairman Philibosian noted that Commissioner Oakes had expertise in Insurance Law, and many of the E & E Commissioners in the business field have direct experience with Workman's Compensation. Sheppard, Mullin, Richter and Hampton represent some of the major workmen's compensation carriers (including State Fund, the carrier of last resort). The Organization and Accountability Task Force could be selected for the study and the Commission would change their title, accordingly.

## **VIII. LIAISON REPORTS**

### **Local Government Services Commission**

Commissioner Andes, the Local Government Services (LGS) Commission Liaison, was not able to attend the meeting.

### **Quality and Productivity Commission**

Commissioner Anderson was not present to report.

## **IX. OLD BUSINESS - TASK FORCE REPORTS**

### **Emancipation Services Task Force (Finance)**

Commissioner Thompson stated that the task force used outside consultants to gather data, but the report cannot be concluded until county departments deliver additional information to the Executive Director. All of the task force members contributed at least fifteen or twenty hours in observation and deliberation. Chairman Philibosian summarized that the outside consultants' report, which includes largely raw material, has been completed and delivered. The task force will now work in conjunction with Mr. Staniforth and the Chief Administrative Office in order to present a more traditional report.

### **Organization & Accountability Task Force**

Commissioner Oakes reported that the task force has been looking at AB56, Robert Hertzberg's Bill on election reform. The California State Senate Appropriations Committee is holding a hearing and, if the bill is voted off of suspense, it will go to the floor. A joint effort by the Organization and Accountability Task Force and the Task Force on Economic Development (Policy) is focused on streamlining the permit process as opposed to the subcomponents of economic development. A timeframe needs to be established for recommendations in a more extensive joint meeting.

Commissioner Oakes mentioned that Commissioner Crowley noted the lack of a database for all of the projects, studies and work done for/by the various commissions, task forces and boards of Los Angeles County. Indexing would be of great assistance in avoiding duplication of efforts by the various commissions.

### **Economic Development Task Force (Policy)**

Commissioner Sylva stated that she is enthusiastic about the presentations in November and December by the members of the California Contract Cities Association and Mr. Carlos Jackson, Executive Director of the Community Development Commission. Commissioner Sylva would like to give Mr. Jackson the task force's suggestions on permit streamlining. Commissioner Sylva stated that the Board of Supervisors instructed that the Chief Administrative Office conduct a feasibility study (countywide) to determine an economic development initiative for strengthening and streamlining procedures and to report back within 120 days. She recommended that the Joint Task Force monitor both the feasibility study and the Economic Development Commission.

Mr. Staniforth noted that the CAO's direction also assigns the Economy and Efficiency Commission as a part of this group. Chairman Philibosian asked Mr. Staniforth to elaborate on the summit meeting for the Commission. Mr. Staniforth read the following excerpt:

“Conduct annually a county summit to discuss issues related to economic development, provide information sharing across the myriad of county boards, commissions and departments that have a role in economic development. The Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation (LAEDC), Community Development Commission, Small Business Commission, Citizens’ Economy and Efficiency Commission, New Directions Task Force and/or other appropriate county departments and agencies would participate in this summit”.

Mr. Staniforth recommended the designation of a lead commissioner to work on the project. Chairman Philibosian designated Commissioner Sylva, with the agreement of Commissioner Oakes. Chairman Philibosian stated that he would probably attend some of the meetings and asked that the other commissioners be informed, so they could attend and communicate their recommendations through Commissioner Sylva.

Commissioner Sylva also noted that Supervisor Knabe has mentioned that the Chief Information Office was streamlining the permit process online.

Chairman Philibosian said he chaired a task force eight years ago dealing with growth through increasing revenue, rather than increasing taxes, as a way in which the county could address its cost issues. The recommendations haven’t been refined since. Now the recommendations could become more specific. The report was entitled Los Angeles County Budget and Economic Growth, May 1993.

### **Grand Jury**

Commissioner Hill reported that there had been an extensive outreach (over 300 reports) of the Review of the Effectiveness of the Los Angeles County Grand Jury. All of the counties in California have received a copy, as well as all of the interviewees or people referred to in the report, Senator Feinstein, Senator Boxer, all of the 88 Mayors of the cities in Los Angeles County, the press, and diverse bar associations. Mr. Simmons asked Commissioner Hill if he could discuss his disagreements with the Grand Jury Task Force. Commissioner Hill replied that they would be open to a discussion, offsite.

Commissioner Hill said that the task force would return to address their new assignment and the many issues that are occurring. Commissioner Hill thanked the Executive Director, Bruce Staniforth, for his efforts to place the grand jury review on the Economy and Efficiency Commission’s Web Site.

### **X. PRESENTATION (a)**

[Supervisor Don Knabe](#)

[Fourth District, Los Angeles County](#)

[Topic: The Demographics, Economics, and Characteristics of the 4th District](#)

[Supervisor Yvonne Brathwaite-Burke](#)

[Second District, Los Angeles County](#)

[Topic: The Demographics, Economics, and Characteristics of the 2nd District](#)

Chairman Philibosian introduced Fourth District Supervisor Don Knabe who discussed the nature of his district, energy costs and how they affect economic development, Los Angeles County’s internal operation, and the airport expansionist conundrum; and Second District Supervisor Yvonne Brathwaite Burke who discussed the nature of her district, healthcare issues, Department of Children and Family Services, and usage/maintenance of county property.

### **XI. NEW BUSINESS**

None

### **XII. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

### **XIII. ADJOURNMENT**

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

Respectfully Submitted.



Bruce J. Staniforth  
Executive Director

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