
Economy & Efficiency Commission Meeting Minutes

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING ECONOMY AND EFFICIENCY COMMISSION

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2000

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 10:15 a.m.

II. APPROVAL OF COMMISSIONER'S ABSENCES

Chairman Philibosian asked for a motion to approve absences.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

Clayton Anderson
Fred Balderrama
Joanne Baltierrez
Hope J. Boonshaft
John Crowley
David W. Farrar
Jaclyn Tilley Hill
Chun Lee
Tony Lucente
Roman Padilla
William J. Petak
Robert H. Philibosian
H. Randall Stoke
Julia Sylva
G. Thomas Thompson

COMMISSIONERS REQUESTING TO BE EXCUSED

Jonathan Fuhrman
Royal F. Oakes
Marc A. Seidner

Tony Tortorice

COMMISSIONERS NOT REQUESTING AN EXCUSE

None

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

III. APPROVAL OF 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 November 2, 2000 Commission meeting be approved.

V. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman Philibosian requested the Commission to caucus and select members of the 2001 Nominating Committee. Prior to this caucus, Chairman Philibosian asked Mr. Staniforth to explain how the Nominating Committee is to be structured. Mr. Staniforth stated that the Nominating Committee consists of one representative from each supervisorial district. The four commissioners that are appointed by each Supervisor meet to select one of this group to be a member of the Nominating Committee. That group then selects the Chairman of that Committee. The Chairman is a coordinating member with responsibility to report on the committee's findings. That Committee meets at their convenience sometime in December to consider candidates for the office of Chair. At the January Commission meeting they recommend to the full Commission their nomination to fill the office of chair for the year 2001. The meeting, if desired by the committee, can be accomplished by conference call.

Chairman Philibosian said that if there were any questions concerning the procedure, the commissioner's could call Mr. Staniforth. He then asked the commissioners to take a five-minute break to caucus.

Upon returning from a caucus, Chairman Philibosian stated that for the record the following commissioners would comprise the nominating committee: Commissioner Padilla (Dist-1), Commissioner Lee (Dist.-2), Commissioner Boonshaft (Dist-3), and Commissioner Tilley-Hill (Dist-4), Commissioner Stoke (Dist-5). Chair Philibosian stated that if anyone has any suggestions as to nominees, they could approach one of the members of that committee. They will meet and return with their recommendation to the full Commission.

Chairman Philibosian said that Commissioner Baltierrez had accepted an appointment to the Finance Task Force. The appointment provides a third district representative on the task force, of which Commissioner Thompson is the Chair.

Chairman Philibosian reported that he had asked Lari Sheehan of the Chief Administrative Office to provide the Commission with an update of the Unincorporated Areas Report. She is in the process of preparing it and should have it by next week. Chair Philibosian said he was going to assign this report review to the Organization and Accountability Task Force and requested the task force to present the Commission with an update and any further recommendations they consider to be appropriate.

IV. INTRODUCTIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

At this point of the meeting, with the arrival of Commissioner Michael Jimenez, Chairman Philibosian presented a scroll to him in recognition of his four years of service on the Commission. Commissioner Jimenez thanked the Commission for the accolades and stated that he had recently joined the Altadena Search and Rescue Team. This assignment will require a three-day a week training commitment in the Sheriff's Academy between February and June of 2001. He also stated that he would be participating in the Boundary Review Committee, which was just formed by Supervisor Yaroslavsky.

V. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

Commissioner Crowley continued to address the unincorporated area follow-up by adding that if the unincorporated area of Los Angeles County were a city it would be the third largest in the State of California. As a consequence of the report from the E & E Commission, an office was created in the Chief Administrative Office headed by Lari Sheehan. She has organized a series of seminars with approximately fifty representatives from various county agencies and departments. Issues such as a budget for Unincorporated Areas were discussed. Commissioner Crowley stated that he attended the seminar and would update the Commission when the final reports are issued.

Commissioner Farrar asked Commissioner Crowley if the determination that this area would be the third largest city in

the State of California was by population or area. Commissioner Crowley responded that it was by population.

Commissioner Padilla stated that David Janssen, the County's Chief Administrative Officer, has provided documents in previous meetings, which have reported on the Unincorporated Areas' Service Budget. Commissioner Padilla said the methods used to calculate the budget could be a starting point, since categorization of the budget in this manner is a recent development.

VI. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Staniforth said that he had passed out study proposals to the Finance Task Force, the Organization and Accountability Task Force, and the Grand Jury Task Force.

VII. LIAISON REPORTS

Local Government Services Commission

Commissioner Andes, the Local Government Commission Liaison, said the Commission has not met, and that there was no report, however the next meeting of this Commission would be January 9, 2001.

Commissioner Crowley said that he was very impressed with the agenda of the Local Government Services Commission. Commissioner Crowley stated that the issues that were discussed had serious implications for the E & E Commission. The reduction of gridlock on the streets, in the air and at the ports, was a subject that involves economy and efficiency, i.e., the factors of gasoline and time. Synchronization of traffic signals for ninety cities, was one solution, and changing the time of day that trucks travel on the freeways, was another.

Quality and Productivity Commission

Commissioner Rew, the Quality and Productivity Commission (Q&P) Liaison, stated that on November 14, 2000 the Board of Supervisors recognized the Quality and Productivity Award winners. Board Chair Molina presented a scroll to the Q&P Commission recognizing their work in the year 2000. The Commission is continuing its visits to the various county departments. In the past month the Commission visited with the Public Social Service Department, the Office of the Public Defender, and with the Executive Office. The Productivity Investment Board met on October 29, 2000 to review a record number of seven proposals that totaled almost \$7M. Requests were granted to the Sheriff's Department, Health Services, Community and Senior Services, and the Arts Commission. The annual Q&P Commission luncheon will be held on Monday, December 11, 2000 following the regular Commission meeting, the luncheon is an effort to celebrate the department heads and the network managers together with their contributions to the county. The Q&P Commission continues their work with core departments within the county on its role in the strategic planning process. On November 9, 2000, several commissioners were guests of honor at the graduation ceremony for the first county training academy of its managers.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

Finance

Commissioner Thompson stated that the Independent Living Program (ILP) required attention in areas of finance and management. The program is designed to help emancipated young people who are having difficulty adjusting to living as adults. The ILP is in need of a follow-up strategy and assistance in accounting. Commissioner Thompson felt that the report was important to undertake. When he had been sitting on the Independence Court and in Juvenile Court he hadn't realized that there was so little co-ordination within this program.

Chairman Philibosian stated that it is a budgeted program, but it appears that the ILP has difficulties in the allocation of funds. Commissioner Crowley stated that he was under the impression that perhaps there were reserves created in prior years that have not been addressed. Commissioner Padilla stated that the Mr. Fullinwider, the Chief Information Officer of L.A. County, answered a question regarding database issues, i.e. co-ordinating interagency information on a foster child. Commissioner Thompson responded that checks and balances need to be part of any program.

Chairman Philibosian stated there seems to be a lack of coordination and ability to share information among the various agencies in the county that are dealing with children in foster care. He asked if a foster child gets into legal problems in Pomona, can the Pomona Police Department, the District Attorney's Office, the Probation Department, or the Juvenile Court communicate with the Department of Family and Children Services? If there were a school problem, would the foster parent be in communication with the school? Commissioner Thompson stated these youth are being emancipated, but they may not receive all of the benefits to which they may be entitled.

Commissioner Hill stated that enormous amounts of people are operating in good faith, but are throwing money at a "quick fix" situation. If there is a system in place, it doesn't appear that they are communicating with each other. There are buildings available for housing, but without management of a system for continued education and housing, money will not solve the problem.

Chairman Philibosian said that since the issue is jointly assigned to the Finance and Organization and Accountability Task Forces and in the absence of the Chair, Commissioner Oakes, (Organization and Accountability Task Force); he asked the Executive Director, Mr. Staniforth, to update the Commission on the outline of the Independent Living Program Proposal Draft. The two task forces will then review these draft studies, and the task forces will prepare a final draft proposal that will be shared with the entire Commission.

Mr. Staniforth stated that the document being prepared is a "request for funds" document. The funds would allow the Commission to hire people to assist on this project. The suggestion was that the Commission request funding from the Productivity and Investment Fund. The document explains the nature of the problem and tries to define the study approach and design.

There are five problem areas. First, are the program goals, measurements, and the accountability issues. Second, is the data systems element, which is the ability to address the interchangeability of information among departments. Third, are the organizational requirements, which deal with the program's function and interaction. Fourth, are the operational requirements and policies, which provide the tools for the program to interact, effectively. Fifth, the financial structure, is a review of the financial problems that relates to the operation of the other four.

Commissioner Thompson interjected that he would like the final funding request document to be submitted to the full Commission. Chairman Philibosian asked the commissioners if there were any disagreement with Commissioner Thompson's proposal. Hearing none, Chair Philibosian stated that the funding request should come back to the full Commission.

Chairman Philibosian asked if there should be a joint meeting of the two task forces, which can be noticed for members of the public to attend if they so desire. Commissioner Stoke added that each task force should have a separate meeting. Chairman Philibosian deferred the meeting arrangements to the two chairs of the task forces.

Commissioner Farrar referred to the issue of real estate management, a project he worked on five years ago. He remembered that Commissioner Seidner commented on the ability of the task force to have a positive impact on the County. Commissioner Farrar recalled that every recommendation of the full E & E Commission was adopted by the Board of Supervisors and unanimously implemented. However, the members of the task force concluded that the problem did not concern the best real estate management practices or their implementations, it concerned the human resources side of the problem.

Commissioner Farrar recommended that the two task forces review the proposed issues with this idea in mind. Chairman Philibosian remarked that Commissioner Farrar's experience was a great teacher for the problems faced by these task forces.

Commissioner Hill stated that she and Commissioner Lucente spent a great deal of time on the Real Estate project, and although the changes may be less significant than one would have hoped for, changes have been made. The entire office is not recognizable from where it was five years ago. Commissioner Farrar agreed. There are systems in place and they are taking advantage of technology. There has been a serious emphasis on asset identification. When the project was started the County did not know where their buildings were located, if the buildings were leased, or who was utilizing the buildings. All of those answers are now available through the use of technology. The efforts of the Economy and Efficiency Commission "raised the bar" on awareness. Commissioner Hill stated that she has learned to work with those who are at hand. Commissioner Hill congratulated Commissioner Farrar for starting these changes. Commissioner Farrar thanked Commissioner Hill and agreed that without the task force's attention to the problem and their preparation of the reports, the Board of Supervisors would not have been as aware of the real estate issues.

Grand Jury

Commissioner Hill reported that the data for the Grand Jury Task Force has been collected. The Grand Jury Task Force will be meeting in the Economy and Efficiency Conference Room to begin analyzing the information. The draft report on the Grand Jury should be ready early next year.

Organization and Accountability

Since Commissioner Oakes was excused from the commission meeting due to a business conflict, Mr. Staniforth, the Executive Director, explained the outline of the draft report. His explanation can be found under the Finance Task

Force heading.

Policy

Commissioner Sylva stated that the Policy Task Force has met. She read excerpts from the Mission Statement, as follows: "We propose an economic development study for the purposes of reviewing public policy that will improve the Los Angeles County's economic environment through growth rather than imposing additional burdens on residents. We propose efforts to improve the County's business permitting process, outreach to the government, outreach to other businesses, possible outreach to other states and other economies in this global economy."

The Policy Task Force has been in consultation with the Los Angeles Economic Development Corporation. The task force wants to begin meetings with the CAO's office and with other surrounding cities to talk about project proposals for other cities in Los Angeles County, coordinate efforts and learn from any mistakes that have been made. Chairman Philibosian complimented Commissioner Sylva for her optimism, creativity and innovation.

X. NEW BUSINESS

Commissioner Thompson asked if the Finance Task Forces could get together to see when they can meet. Chairman Philibosian agreed.

XI. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

VIII. PRESENTATION (a)

[Leroy D. Baca, Sheriff, Los Angeles County](#)
[Topic: The Sheriff's Department in the 21st Century](#)

Chairman Philibosian introduced Sheriff Leroy D. Baca, of Los Angeles County who celebrated his second anniversary in office, December 7th, 2000. Sheriff Baca discussed his proactive approach to inmate rehabilitation, education and facilities; open air shelters for the homeless; new Sheriff's stations in the county and storefronts in unincorporated areas; the creation of the Deputy Sheriff's Leadership Institute, and bi-annual auditing of the entire Los Angeles Sheriff's Department. A summary of Sheriff Baca's presentation can be found on the Economy and Efficiency Commission's website through its presentation link.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Upon a motion from the floor, Chairman Philibosian adjourned the meeting at 12:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted.



Bruce J. Staniforth
Executive Director

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