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

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

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 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 10:10 a.m.

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

##### **COMMISSIONERS PRESENT**

Fred Balderrama  
Hope J. Boonshaft  
John Crowley  
David W. Farrar  
Jaclyn Tilley Hill  
Michael Jimenez  
Jeanne L. Kennedy  
Chun Lee  
Tony Lucente  
Carol Ojeda-Kimbrough  
Royal F. Oakes  
Roman Padilla  
William J. Petak  
Robert H. Philibosian  
Marc A. Seidner  
H. Randall Stoke  
Julia E. Sylva  
G. Thomas Thompson

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

David A. Abel  
Johnathan Fuhrman

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 January 6, 2000 Commission meeting be approved.

### **IV. INTRODUCTIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

As his first order of business as Chairman, Chairman Philibosian stated that he had asked and Commissioner Lucente accepted the position of Vice Chair of the Commission.

Chairman Philibosian reported that two liaison representatives were to be appointed from this Commission; one to the Local Government Services Commission, and one to the Quality and Productivity Commission. He asked that the Commissioners consider this assignment and notify the Executive Director of a desire to be assigned as liaison no later than February 22, 2000.

Chairman Philibosian asked Commissioner Petak if he would explain the meeting schedule and responsibilities of the liaison to the Local Government Services Commission. Commissioner Petak replied that the Local Government Services Commission meets once a month on Tuesday in the Hall of Administration. He stated that one of the major issues being addressed by the Commission is the attempt to consolidate the County and cities efforts to develop common training facilities. Chairman Philibosian said that staff would obtain and mail background to each commissioner on both Commissions. Chairman Philibosian stated that he would have the Executive Director attend meetings of the Commissions in the event the assigned Commissioner could not attend a meeting.

Commissioner Farrar said that he understood the reasoning for the Commission having a liaison to the Quality and Productivity Commission, but of the other approximately 150 Commissions in the County what considerations led to this Commissions having a liaison representative on the Local Government Services Commission. Mr. Staniforth responded that he believed it was because there has been overlapping in efforts between the Local Government Services Commission and the Economy and Efficiency Commission in the past.

Chairman Philibosian suggested that the Commission move on to the Quality and Productivity liaison position. He said Commissioner Hill was also the Chair of the Quality and Productivity Commission so it seems very efficient that she continues as the liaison to that Commission. He added that if any other Commissioner had a desire for the position the request would be considered. Chairman Philibosian said that he would leave the decision open till February 22, 2000.

Commissioner Hill stated that there were opportunities to gain hands on knowledge from the Quality and Productivity Commission as to what is going on within county departments. She then gave a brief description of the structure and functioning of the Quality and Productivity Commission.

Chairman Philibosian stated that it might be helpful if this Commission had another representative involved with the Quality and Productivity Commission. Commissioner Hill is the Chair, and it could enhance her ability to get things done if we had another person from this Commission assigned as liaison to Quality and Productivity.

Chairman Philibosian said that he would like to congratulate Commissioner Carol Ojeda-Kimbrough on her appointment to the Commission for Public Social Services.

Chairman Philibosian continued saying that the Executive Director had some additional information and reports.

Mr. Staniforth said that he was asked by the Orange County Grand Jury to make a presentation on the activities of the Economy and Efficiency Commission. As a result, it appears that the Grand Jury will make a recommendation to create a similar Commission for Orange County.

Mr. Staniforth explained it was being recommended that our cardboard nameplates be replaced with new metal ones. He said that there was a choice of 3 designs with options for two of them, which he explained.

Chairman Philibosian announced that there was a new Executive Officer for the Board, Violet Varona-Lukins. He asked Mr. Staniforth to explain the Commissions relationship with the Administrative Office.

Mr. Staniforth explained that at this time the Commission does not have a budget. In 1994 the Commission relinquished its budget, approximately \$350,000, in response to the County's fiscal difficulties. Since then, the Executive office has supported the administrative and some project needs of the Commission. Commissioner Stoke asked if there was a way to formalize the relationship with the Executive Office to identify funds for this Commission. Mr. Staniforth replied that steps were being taken to consider this issue.

Chairman Philibosian asked Commissioner Hill to go through the logistics for the luncheon to be held today. Commissioner Hill stated that the luncheon follows immediately after the Commission meeting at 12:00 a.m. and that the Commissioners were all hosts. She then gave a list of some of the guests and dignitaries that were expected. She added that due to the fact that our outgoing Chairman, David Abel, was not able to attend the commission is planning something special for him at our next meeting.

Mr. Staniforth commented that it was determined that Deputy Richard Popper, a Deputy of Supervisor Yaroslavsky, would make a presentation to Commissioner Abel, in his absence, to recognize his work and efforts over the past three years.

## **V. OLD BUSINESS**

### 1. 1. Unincorporated Area

Commissioner Padilla stated that the Task Force determined at its last meeting that they would like to meet with Mr. Marc Baldassarre after the publication of his report. When it is published it will be arranged. The Task Force met with Ms. Lari Sheehan who is responsible for oversight on unincorporated services for the Chief Administrative Office. These meetings were productive and Ms. Sheehan was very helpful and cooperative. Commissioner Crowley wished to add that the conversations with Ms. Sheehan, have given her cause to increase her attention to the economies of scale within the County. Commissioner Kennedy suggested that a follow-up should be done on the Request for Proposal for a consultant.

### 2. Debt Collection

Commissioner Seidner said the Task Force has created a schedule listing the recommendations that were made and the corresponding actions or inaction's taken by the appropriate department. He went on to say that he had reviewed a report sent to him by the Executive Director and was quit pleased to see that a substantial percentage of the Task Force recommendations had been implemented. He said that some of the implementation has been recent, in the last 60 days. The review is ongoing by the Task Force.

### 3. Constitutional Revision

Chairman Philibosian stated that this matter would be deferred until the return of Commissioner Abel. He said that at that time he would ask Commissioner Abel to take over as Chairman, removing himself as Co-Chair.

### 4. Web Page Development

Vice Chair Lucente said that as previously reported all the reports of this Commission are scheduled to be placed on the Web Site. He said that originally this was to be completed by the end of January, but the contractor is behind schedule.

Chairman Philibosian asked if there was a way to determine the amount of "hits" the web page has had. Mr. Staniforth answered that the site has a statistics program that catalogues the "hits" in addition to many other statistical facts concerning the site.

### 6. Real Asset Management

Commissioner Farrar said that the Task Force has made some progress on it's goals but that there was still a long way to go. He commented that the Task Force would welcome suggestions and ideas on how to accomplish things that it wanted to do but, as yet, had not. He said that he wanted the Task Force to have a several hour working meeting to discuss this. The Task Force will return at the next meeting with an assessment report as to what has been achieved, not achieved, and the realignment of sights as to where the Task Force is going.

Commissioner Farrar said that the real-estate Task Force is an example of the inter-relationships that can be achieved among the various commissions. A Task Force comprised of members from this Commission, Real Estate Commission, Quality and Productivity Commission, Local Government Services Commission and the Small Craft and Harbor Commission has been working together for approximately a year. He said that the value that had been hoped

for from this Commission has been achieved, although, there is more that can be accomplished. He believes that attendance at these meetings by Deputies of the Supervisors is a vote of confidence from the Board. It appears that this is an item that they are still interested in pursuing.

Commissioner Hill stated that she thought that Commissioner Farrar should be given credit for his tenacious pursuit of excellence in this field. At least four of the Supervisors have deputies devoted to this project and progress has been expansive due, in large part, to Commissioner Farrar's efforts.

Commissioner Kennedy wanted to know if the previously discussed audit was to be postponed. Commissioner Farrar thanked Commissioner Kennedy for asking the question and stated that he felt that the audit should still be requested. He added that if this is the direction that is decided upon, it should be a very deliberate step and not perceived by anyone as an overreaction.

#### 7. Grand Jury Implementation

Commissioner Lucente said that the next action of the Task Force had been to invite the Probation Department to come and speak to this Commission on the issues that are important to achieving the Department's goals. This presentation is taking place today.

### **VI. PRESENTATION (a)**

[Mr. Richard Shumsky, Chief Probation Officer, Los Angeles County Probation Department](#)  
[Topic: Strategic Plan Focus](#)

Commissioner Thompson introduced Mr. Shumsky relating some past associations with him and commending his dedication to the Probation Department.

Mr. Shumsky explained the methods used and progresses in the implementation of the Los Angeles County's Probation Departments Strategic Plan. He also discussed the future direction of the Department.

### **VII. NEW BUSINESS**

Chairman Philibosian stated that he had sent a letter to each of the Commissioners soliciting their ideas and suggestions. He felt that this Commission has a tremendous wealth of talent and experience. He suggested that his primary duty as Chairman is to ensure that we are utilizing all of this wealth of experience and expertise.

Chairman Philibosian said that he wished to cover two issues, the first being that if anyone would like reassignment from any Task Force to which they are currently assigned to let the Executive Director know by February 22, 2000. He felt that this would be the most efficient way of handling requests. Anyone can feel free to call him or Vice Chair Lucente to discuss any issue. He added that he would like to set a block of time, at the next meeting, to discuss not only reassignment, but any current and/or future issues in which the Commission should be involved.

Chairman Philibosian also suggested that the Commission consider reestablishing the Executive Committee. This Committee consists of the Chairman, Vice Chairman and the chairs of all of the task forces. The Committee meets periodically to keep abreast of what actions are underway and has those powers delegated by the Commission to act between Commission meetings, if a decision is required. Chairman Philibosian concluded saying that Vice Chairman Lucente had some additional issues to discuss.

Vice Chair Lucente said that in the interest of time he would submit the issues for consideration, but would briefly explain them. He said that he recently attended a Quality and Productivity Commission luncheon as the representative of this Commission and was struck by the relationship they had with the department heads. He would like this Commission to broaden its outreach to both supervisory staff and the county department heads. He added that the other issue he would like to see addressed is to reexamine and reorganize our task forces.

Commissioner Seidner remarked that he had noticed from circulated literature that the Natural History Museum is again reviewing the idea of becoming self-sufficient and relocating. He said that in the past this Commission had reviewed the Museum's functioning and he felt that an oversight review was in order. Chairman Philibosian agreed with Commissioner Seidner.

Commissioner Padilla said the Commissioner Thompson mentioned earlier about maintaining this Commission's independence. He felt that the Commission should look at cutting down the time involved from the point that the Commission makes a decision to the point that resources are available to implement that decision. Chairman Philibosian said that this was an excellent idea and that he hoped he would be able to report further on this matter at

the next meeting.

Commissioner Kennedy said that she had an idea to address court inefficiencies and how technology could be better implemented in the courtroom.

**VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**IX. 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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