



2.  
7/23/2020

**MINUTES**  
**June 25, 2020**

Present Via

Teleconference: Steve Sanchez, Chair  
Stephen Tomanelli, Vice Chair  
Jeff Hewitt  
Kevin Jeffries  
Michael Vargas  
Phil Williams  
Nancy Wright

Present Staff: Gary Thompson, Executive Officer  
Crystal Craig, Assistant Executive Officer  
Joshua Altopp, Local Government Analyst III  
Elizabeth Valdez, Commission Clerk  
Tiffany North, Legal Counsel

**1. CALL TO ORDER AND SALUTE TO THE FLAG.**

Chair Sanchez called the meeting to order at approximately 9:31 a.m.

**1.2. ROLL CALL.**

**1.3. ANNOUNCEMENT CONCERNING CONTRIBUTIONS TO COMMISSION MEMBERS.**

Counsel North made a statement to the public regarding disclosure of contributions made to Commissioners.

**2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MAY 28, 2020 MEETING.**

Moved (Wright) seconded (Williams) to approve the Minutes of the May 28, 2020 meeting.

Chair Sanchez called for the vote.

AYES: Sanchez, Tomanelli, Wright, Vargas, Hewitt, Jeffries,  
and Williams.

NOES: None.

ABSENT: None.

ABSTAINED: None.

**3. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ANY ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA.**

Brad Anderson, resident, City of Rancho Mirage. Mr. Anderson commented on the Coachella Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District. He stated he would like to discuss dissolving the District and/or reducing its

sphere of influence. He stated that residents were not informed about the District closure due to COVID-19, recent positive West Nile cases and no abatement procedures were done.

**4. CONSENT CALENDAR (NON-HEARING ITEMS):**

- a. LAFCO Monthly Expenditure Review.
- b. LAFCO 2019-13-3-Reorganization to Include Detachment from County Service Area 146 and Concurrent Annexation 101 to County Service Area 84 and to Valley-Wide Recreation and Park District (Tracts 30972 and 30972-1) and pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act the Commission, as responsible agency, will review and consider the Mitigated Negative Declaration prepared by the County of Riverside, as lead agency and adoption of a resolution making determinations on the proposal.

Moved (Hewitt) seconded (Williams) to approve the Consent Calendar as recommended by staff.

Chair Sanchez called for the vote.

AYES: Sanchez, Tomanelli, Wright, Vargas, Hewitt, Jeffries, and Williams.

NOES: None.

ABSENT: None.

ABSTAINED: None.

**5. PUBLIC HEARINGS:**

**Continued:**

There were no continued public hearing items.

**New:**

- a. LAFCO 2020-07-5-Pass/Mountain Area County Regions Water and Wastewater Agencies-Sphere of Influence Review and Potential Amendments: Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District and a finding of exemption pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act and adoption of a resolution making determinations on the proposal. **(Staff recommends a continuance to August 27, 2020)**

Mr. Thompson asked the Commission to continue the proposal so that staff can work with the agencies on how to proceed where the spheres of influence are overlapping.

Chair Sanchez opened the public hearing, there was no one wishing to speak at the time, he continued the public hearing until the August 27<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Moved (Vargas) seconded (Tomanelli) to continue LAFCO 2020-07-5-Pass/Mountain Area County Regions Water and Wastewater Agencies-Sphere of Influence Review and Potential Amendments: Beaumont-

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Cherry Valley Water District to August 27, 2020 as recommended by staff.

Chair Sanchez called for the vote.

AYES: Sanchez, Tomanelli, Wright, Vargas, Hewitt, Jeffries, and Williams.

NOES: None.

ABSENT: None.

ABSTAINED: None.

- b. LAFCO 2020-13-3&5-Dissolution of Valley Health System and a finding of exemption pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act and adoption of a resolution making determinations on the proposal.

Mr. Altopp gave a brief history of the District's services and financial status. He stated the District had filed for bankruptcy and sold off its hospitals and assets. Mr. Altopp stated that all remaining funds were distributed to various charities. He stated that the Commission has already approved a zero sphere of influence for the District. He stated the District has fulfilled their service; all obligations have been taken care of including the disbursement of retirement plan funds to all participants and was ready to be dissolved.

Chair Sanchez opened the public hearing.

Brad Anderson, resident, City of Rancho Mirage. Mr. Anderson spoke in support of the dissolution. He stated that he has followed the process and the District no longer provided any services and this was the next step.

Chair Sanchez closed the public hearing.

Moved (Hewitt) seconded (Wright) to approve LAFCO 2020-13-3&5-Dissolution of Valley Health System as recommended by staff.

Chair Sanchez called for the vote.

AYES: Sanchez, Tomanelli, Wright, Vargas, Hewitt, Jeffries, and Williams.

NOES: None.

ABSENT: None.

ABSTAINED: None.

## 6. OTHER BUSINESS:

- a. Professional Services Agreement Amendment for the Murrieta Focused Municipal Service Review with West Yost Associates.

Mr. Thompson presented this item. He explained the purpose of the municipal service review (MSR). He stated that all the agencies agreed to jointly fund the MSR. He stated that over the last year additional work has had to be done which included financial and infrastructure analysis. Mr. Thompson stated that another part of the change order is

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the cost of two additional public meetings. He stated that staff agrees with the change order and that the agencies have already signed the amendment to the funding agreement.

Commissioner Williams asked about the LAFCOs role in the public meetings that were previously held. Ms. Craig explained how the meetings were advertised and the need for an additional meeting.

Commissioner Williams and staff discussed the change order amendment and where all agencies had signed off on it.

Chair Sanchez opened public comments.

Kathryn Elliot, resident, City of Murrieta. Ms. Elliot thanked LAFCO on behalf of the residents of west Murrieta for making sure that the FMSR contains a thorough analysis of the water supply and costs. She thanked staff for the opportunity to meet with West Yost and comment on the Draft report and provide comment to the Commission on that report when available. She asked that a meeting is made open to residents and understands that might be difficult due to COVID-19.

Chair Sanchez closed public comments.

Moved (Wright) seconded (Vargas) to approve the Professional Services Agreement Amendment for the Murrieta Focused Municipal Service Review with West Yost Associates as recommended by staff.

Chair Sanchez called for the vote.

AYES: Sanchez, Tomanelli, Wright, Vargas, Hewitt, Jeffries, and Williams.

NOES: None.

ABSENT: None.

ABSTAINED: None.

**7. INFORMATION ITEMS: No action to be taken by Commission.**

a. Proposals Received and/or LAFCO Initiated (Government Code Sections 56751 and 56857):

i. LAFCO 2020-20-5-Sphere of Influence Amendments (addition) to the City of Banning and the Banning Library District (Lloyd L. Fields).

ii. LAFCO 2020-21-5-Reorganization to Include Concurrent Annexations to the City of Banning and the Banning Library District (Lloyd L. Fields).

Mr. Altopp gave a brief overview of the two new proposals received since the last meeting.

Chair Sanchez opened public comments.

Lora Soderquist, represents the applicant. She stated that she was listening to the meeting as a representative for Mr. Fields and did not have any comments at this time.

Adam Rush, City of Banning. Mr. Rush submitted a request to speak form in Support of the proposals but was not on the line to speak.

Chair Sanchez closed public comments.

b. Report on Conducting Authority Proceedings.

Mr. Thompson reviewed the Conducting Authority Proceedings report.

**8. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE AND POTENTIAL POSITIONS.**

Mr. Thompson gave an update on current legislation. He stated all items we were tracking are gone. He stated that CALAFCO took a support position for Los Angeles LAFCO concerning SB 625 that involves placing the Central Basin Municipal Water District into receivership and to dissolve their Board.

**9. EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORTS.**

Mr. Thompson stated that LAFCO has opened the office by appointment only and that safety protocols are in place. He also stated that staff has received six responses to the Request for Proposals for the City MSR and SOI Review. He also asked the Commission to consider the timeframe for continuing to hold Zoom Meetings.

**10. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS/FUTURE ITEMS.**

Commissioner Wright asked if there was a quorum for the Special District Selection Committee Election and what was the ending date. Mr. Thompson replied yes there was a quorum and the close date is July 6<sup>th</sup>.

**11. ADJOURNMENT.**

Moved (Wright) seconded (Vargas) to adjourn the meeting at 10:07 a.m.

Chair Sanchez called for the vote.

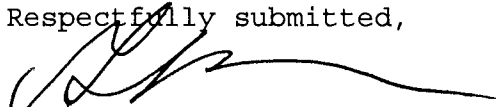
AYES: Sanchez, Tomanelli, Wright, Vargas, Hewitt, Jeffries,  
and Williams.

NOES: None.

ABSENT: None.

ABSTAINED: None.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Gary Thompson  
Executive Officer