



**2.a.**  
**7/27/2023**

**MINUTES**  
**June 22, 2023**

Present

Commissioners: Michael Vargas, Chair  
Stephen Tomanelli, Vice-Chair  
Steve Sanchez  
Yxstian Gutierrez  
Stephen Corona

Absent

Commissioners: Kevin Jeffries  
Cástulo Estrada

Present Staff:

Gary Thompson, Executive Officer  
Crystal Craig, Assistant Executive Officer  
Elizabeth Valdez, Commission Clerk  
Rebecca Holtzclaw, Executive Assistant I  
Melissa Cushman, Legal Counsel

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

Chair Vargas called the meeting to order at approximately 9:00 a.m.

**1.2. ROLL CALL.**

**1.3. POTENTIAL REQUEST BY ONE OR MORE COMMISSIONERS TO PARTICIPATE REMOTELY AND UTILIZE AB 2449'S JUST CAUSE OR EMERGENCY CIRCUMSTANCES, POTENTIAL VOTE ON LATTER.**

No request was made.

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

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

**2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:**

a. May 25, 2023

Moved (Corona) seconded (Sanchez) to approve the Minutes of the  
RIVERSIDE LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION  
6216 BROCKTON AVENUE, SUITE 111-B, RIVERSIDE, CA 92506 • PHONE (951) 369-0631 • www.lafco.org

May 25, 2023, meeting.

Chair Vargas called for the vote.

AYES: Corona, Sanchez, Tomanelli, Gutierrez, and Vargas.

NOES: None.

ABSENT: Jeffries and Estrada.

ABSTAINED: None.

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

There were no public comments.

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

a. LAFCO Monthly Expenditure Review.

b. Commission Meeting Schedule for Fiscal Year 2023-24.

Moved (Gutierrez) seconded (Tomanelli) to approve the Consent Calendar as recommended by staff.

Chair Vargas called for the vote.

AYES: Corona, Sanchez, Tomanelli, Gutierrez, and Vargas.

NOES: None.

ABSENT: Jeffries and Estrada.

ABSTAINED: None.

**5. PUBLIC HEARINGS:**

**Continued:** There were no continued public hearing items.

**New:**

a. LAFCO 2023-03-1,5-Dissolution of County Service Area 93 (Moreno Valley) and a finding of exemption pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act and a resolution making determinations on the proposal. **(Staff recommends continuance to September 28, 2023)**

Ms. Craig presented this proposal. She stated that the Economic Development Agency and staff both agreed to a continuance to September 28, 2023. She stated that more analysis needs to be done, specifically on property tax and ad valorem.

Chair Vargas kept the public hearing open until the next meeting.

Moved (Sanchez) seconded (Gutierrez) to continue LAFCO 2023-03-1,5-Dissolution of County Service Area 93 (Moreno Valley) to September 28, 2023, as recommended by staff.

Chair Vargas called for the vote.

AYES: Corona, Sanchez, Tomanelli, Gutierrez, and Vargas.

NOES: None.

ABSENT: Jeffries and Estrada.

ABSTAINED: None.

**6. OTHER BUSINESS:**

a. Fiscal Year 2023/24 Annual Action Plan and Five-Year Strategic Plan Update.

Mr. Thompson reviewed the Annual Action Plan. He stated the Strategic Plan changes are shown in red within the staff report. He stated that staff is on track to complete all items in the plans. He stated that staff will continue to complete the MSR's and that an increase in workload due to application caseload is anticipated for this year.

Moved (Sanchez) seconded (Corona) to receive and file the Fiscal Year 2023/24 Annual Action Plan and Five-Year Strategic Plan Update as recommended by staff.

Chair Vargas called for the vote.

AYES: Corona, Sanchez, Tomanelli, Gutierrez, and Vargas.

NOES: None.

ABSENT: Jeffries and Estrada.

ABSTAINED: None.

b. CALAFCO Board Election Discussion.

Mr. Thompson stated that there were two openings, special district and county representatives, on the CALAFCO Board of Directors. He stated that the next Southern Region meeting would be July 25<sup>th</sup> to discuss who the Region would like to support. Commissioner Gutierrez expressed interest in the county seat.

Commissioner Tomanelli nominated Commissioner Gutierrez for the CALAFCO Board of Directors.

Moved (Tomanelli) seconded (Sanchez) to nominate Commissioner Gutierrez for the CALAFCO Board of Directors and direct the Executive Officer to notify the Southern Region Board.

Chair Vargas called for the vote.

AYES: Corona, Sanchez, Tomanelli, Gutierrez, and Vargas.

NOES: None.

ABSENT: Jeffries and Estrada.

ABSTAINED: None.

c. Public Participation for Future Meetings: In-person or via Zoom (Oral Report).

Chair Vargas stated that he was under the impression that we were no longer allowing Zoom for the public as of the last commission meeting.

Mr. Thompson stated that the Commission voted to utilize AB 2449. He stated if a commissioner chooses to attend via AB 2449 then Zoom would have to be available for the public to utilize the call-in feature. He stated that video would not be an option only call-in.

Counsel Cushman stated that language will have to be added to Item 1.3 on the agenda to allow for this.

Chair Vargas motioned and Counsel Cushman clarified the motion to state: There will be no more Zoom participation for the public but in the extent a commissioner is relying on AB 2449 then a phone number would be provided for participation, as long as the county system allows for this.

Chair Vargas opened public comment.

**Brad Anderson**, resident Rancho Mirage. Mr. Anderson spoke against AB 2449. He urged the commission to allow for call-in for all meetings to allow the public to attend without having to travel.

Chair Vargas closed the public comment.

Moved (Sanchez) seconded (Gutierrez) that there will be no more Zoom participation for the public but in the extent a commissioner is relying on AB 2449 then a phone number would be provided for public participation.

Chair Vargas called for the vote.

AYES: Corona, Sanchez, Tomanelli, Gutierrez, and Vargas.

NOES: None.

ABSENT: Jeffries and Estrada.

ABSTAINED: None.

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

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

i. LAFCO 2023-04-5-Annexation to Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District (Water) (Beaumont Self Storage).

Ms. Craig reviewed the new proposal received.

b. Report on Conducting Authority Proceedings.

There was no Conducting Authority Proceedings report.

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

Mr. Thompson gave an update on pending legislation. He stated there were two bills that CALAFCO was tracking. He stated they are taking an opposition position to AB 918, Healthcare Districts Consolidations, for Imperial County. He stated that this bill forces LAFCO to approve the consolidation without going through the LAFCO process.

Mr. Thompson stated that AB 399 (formerly AB 530) is at the Senate. He stated this was regarding the San Diego LAFCO water district reorganization. He stated San Diego LAFCO is opposed.

Commissioners Tomanelli and Corona asked the commission to take an opposition position on AB 399. Chair Vargas directed the Executive Officer to send a letter of opposition.

9. **EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORTS.**

Mr. Thompson stated that it is Riverside's turn to host the 2025 CALAFCO Staff Workshop. He stated it would most likely be in Palm Springs.

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

There were no commissioner comments.

The Commission recessed into closed session at 9:30 a.m.

11. **CLOSED SESSION:**

With respect to every item of business to be discussed in closed session pursuant to Government Code section 54954.5:

- a. Public Employee Performance Evaluation: LAFCO Executive Officer.

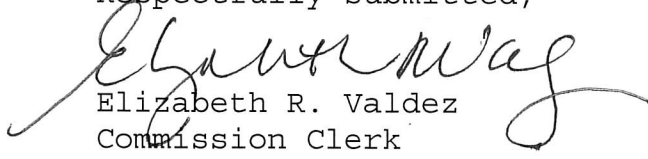
The Commission reconvened from closed session at 9:39 a.m.

Counsel Cushman stated there were no reportable actions.

**12. ADJOURNMENT.**

The Commission adjourned the meeting at approximately 9:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Elizabeth R. Valdez  
Commission Clerk