



2.a.
9/28/2023

MINUTES
July 27, 2023

Present

Commissioners: Michael Vargas, Chair
Stephen Tomanelli, Vice-Chair
Steve Sanchez
Yxstian Gutierrez
Stephen Corona
Cástulo Estrada
V. Manuel Perez, Alternate

Absent

Commissioners: Kevin Jeffries

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. June 22, 2023

Moved (Tomanelli) seconded (Sanchez) to approve the Minutes of the June 22, 2023, meeting.

Chair Vargas called for the vote.

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

NOES: None.

ABSENT: Perez 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.

Moved (Corona) seconded (Sanchez) 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: Perez and Estrada.

ABSTAINED: None.

5. PUBLIC HEARINGS:

Continued: There were no continued public hearing items.

New:

a. LAFCO 2023-02-3-Reorganization to Include Concurrent Annexations to Eastern Municipal Water District (Water & Wastewater) and Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (112th Fringe/Whitewood 29) and pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act the Commission as responsible agency, will review and consider the Mitigated Negative Declaration prepared by the City of Murrieta, as lead agency and adoption of a resolution making determinations on the proposal.

Ms. Craig presented this proposal. She stated the annexation is to Eastern Municipal Water District (EMWD) and Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD) for the provision of water & wastewater services to a single parcel. She stated the project consists of 32 acres of uninhabited territory that is currently undeveloped within the City of Murrieta. Ms. Craig stated the reorganization will provide reliable and quality potable water and wastewater services to the development.

Moved (Sanchez) seconded (Tomanelli) to approve LAFCO 2023-02-3-Reorganization to Include Concurrent Annexations to Eastern Municipal Water District (Water & Wastewater) and Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (112th Fringe/Whitewood 29) as recommended by staff.

Chair Vargas called for the vote.

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

NOES: None.

ABSENT: Perez and Estrada.

ABSTAINED: None.

6. OTHER BUSINESS:

- a. Extension of Term of Employment Agreement with Gary Thompson as LAFCO Executive Officer.

Counsel Cushman presented Amendment No. 1 to the Employment agreement with Mr. Thompson. She stated the amendment was to extend his Agreement until July 1, 2027, as outlined in the amendment.

Commissioners Perez and Estrada joined the meeting at 9:11 a.m.

Moved (Gutierrez) seconded (Sanchez) to approve the Extension of Term of Employment Agreement with Gary Thompson as LAFCO Executive Officer as recommended by staff.

Chair Vargas called for the vote.

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

NOES: None.

ABSENT: None.

ABSTAINED: None.

- b. Election of the Board of Directors for the Special District Risk Management Authority.

Mr. Thompson presented this item. He stated the election is an annual occurrence with the Special District Risk Management Authority, LAFCo's insurance provider. He stated as a member, the election material provided is to elect three candidates out of four submitted.

Commissioner Tomanelli asked if staff had a recommendation. Mr. Thompson responded that there were none. Mr. Thompson stated there were three incumbents and Aquanetta Warren, who is not an incumbent.

Moved (Gutierrez) seconded (Sanchez) to vote for the three incumbents listed on the ballot, Robert Swan, Jesse Claypool, and Sandy Seifert-Raffelson.

Chair Vargas called for the vote.

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

NOES: None.

ABSENT: None.

ABSTAINED: None.

- c. CALAFCO Annual Conference Attendance and Designation of Voting Delegate of CALAFCO Annual Business Meeting and Regional Caucus.

Mr. Thompson stated the annual conference is scheduled for October 18-20, 2023, in Monterey, CA. He stated Commissioners Vargas, Sanchez and Gutierrez will be attending along with Counsel Cushman, Ms. Craig, and himself. He asked if any other Commissioners were interested in attending. He stated CALAFCO required a voting delegate and an alternate be appointed by the Commission.

Commissioner Sanchez nominated Chair Vargas as the voting delegate. Chair Vargas nominated Commissioner Sanchez as the alternate.

Moved (Sanchez) seconded (Corona) to appoint Chair Vargas as the Voting Delegate and Commissioner Sanchez as the Alternate Voting Delegate for the CALAFCO Annual Business Meeting and Regional Caucus.

Chair Vargas called for the vote.

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

NOES: None.

ABSENT: None.

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):

There were no new proposals.

b. Report on Conducting Authority Proceedings.

There was no Conducting Authority Proceedings report.

8. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE AND POTENTIAL POSITIONS.

Mr. Thompson stated the legislature was in recess. He stated the Omnibus bill, AB 1753 (ALG) was signed by the Governor. He stated an opposition letter was sent regarding AB 399 (Boerner) and gave an update on its status. He also gave an update on AB 918 (E. Garcia).

Commissioner Perez and Mr. Thompson discussed AB 399 and election protocols. Commissioner Perez asked if LAFCO normally engages in legislation outside of our jurisdiction. Mr. Thompson responded only if requested by CALAFCO.

9. EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORT.

Mr. Thompson reminded the Commission there would be no meeting in August. He also gave an update on the IID Special Study.

10. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS/FUTURE ITEMS.

There were no commissioner comments.

11. ADJOURNMENT.

The Commission adjourned the meeting at approximately 9:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Rebecca Holtzclaw
Executive Assistant I