



Solano Local Agency Formation Commission

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MINUTES OF
THE LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION OF SOLANO COUNTY
December 9, 2019
Board of Supervisors Chambers
675 Texas Street
Fairfield, CA 94533

1. CALL TO ORDER AND SALUTE TO THE FLAG

The meeting was called to order at 10:01 a.m. by Chair Sperring with a salute to the flag by Commissioner Price.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners: Ron Rowlett, Harry Price, Nancy Shopay, Jim Sperring, and John Vasquez
Alternate Commissioners: Ron Kott and Shawn Smith

Not Present: Alternate Commissioner Skip Thomson

Staff Present: Rich Seithel, Executive Officer, Kevin Stichter, Analyst, P. Scott Browne, Legal Counsel, and Jeanette Neiger, Commission Clerk

3. CHANGES AND APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

There were no changes to the agenda. Commissioner Rowlett moved to approve the consent items, seconded by Commissioner Price. The motion was approved with the following votes:

AYES: Rowlett, Price, Shopay, Sperring, and Vasquez

NOES: None.

ABSENT: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no comments from the public.

Commissioners

Jim Sperring, Chair • Nancy Shopay, Vice-Chair • Harry Price • Ron Rowlett • John Vasquez

Alternate Commissioners

Ron Kott • Shawn Smith • Skip Thomson

Staff

Rich Seithel, Executive Officer • Michelle McIntyre, Sr. Analyst • P. Scott Browne, Legal Counsel

5. PRESENTATION

City of Vallejo Water Director Mike Malone provided an overview of the City of Vallejo Water Department, the City's 5-year Water Rates Plan.

Chair Sperring thanked City of Vallejo Water Operations Manager Beth Schoenberger for all her efforts on improving matters for the Lakes Water System.

Ms. Schoenberger provided an overview of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Solano County for problem solving in the Lakes Water System.

City of Vallejo Water Engineering Manager Mark Quady provided information on the Lakes Water System.

Mr. Malone provided information on next steps looking forward, the City's response to the PG&E Public Safety Power Shut-off (PSPS) and other updates.

Commissioner Vasquez thanked the City for their efforts and for working together with the County on the Lakes Water System. He commented on provision of wildland fire protection in the area and asked that the City bring back a presentation about water delivery and the system providing water to Travis Air Force Base (AFB).

Mr. Malone provided information on the availability of excess water in the storage facility that could assist with wildland fire protection, on the efforts to look at water storage and to identify all the water needs. He then noted that the City had been in discussions and was now participating in monthly meetings with Travis AFB. He advised that the California Water Service Company was now involved as well.

Commissioner Shopay thanked the City for their efforts. She then asked about the rate increase for 2020/21 and asked how the City would make it less of an impact on residents.

Mr. Malone noted that a calculation error had dropped the rate increase the first year. He advised that there was debt built in to each five year plan to help with rate increases.

Ms. Shopay thanked the City for its programs in the community.

Commissioner Price asked what percentage of the water flow was from gravity flow, compared to pump stations.

Mr. Quady noted that 80% was gravity fed and served the majority of customers.

Commissioner Price thanked the City for its high school internship program for certified water operators.

Chair Sperring asked about the Cantone Valve coming up through American Canyon.

Mr. Malone noted that the valve was on a size 14 inch line. He advised that there were more leaks on the Gordon Valley side than the Green Valley side. He noted that part of the next phase was to hire a consultant to do an assessment on the condition of the pipe.

Chair Spering advised that there was a need for the Commission to have a more detailed understanding of Travis AFB's water system and what needs to be replaced or addressed. He then asked how much water was treated and used per day in Green Valley.

Mr. Malone advised that the treatment plant was constructed to handle approximately 1 mgd per day and that use was at approximately .34 mgd on average and .76 mgd max per day. He noted that there was excess capacity to take on about another 100 customers in Green Valley and in excess of that with a pump. He advised that the city had provided a letter to the Middle Green Valley project.

Chair Spering asked that staff come up with a schedule to address the issues, especially in upper Green Valley. He noted that the County had offered to help and advised that the longer it took to do improvements, the higher the costs would be. He then acknowledged Misty Kaltreider from the County for her efforts as well.

Mr. Malone advised that a timeline was being worked on and would be provided within the next 60 days.

Executive Officer Rich Seithel thanked the City of Vallejo for their presentation.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT ON CONSENT CALENDAR

Roger Merrell, President of the Green Valley Homeowners' Association, commented on the history and current relations between the association and the City of Vallejo.

7. CONSENT ITEMS

- A. Minutes August 12, 2019
- B. Financial Reports – July-October
- C. Legislative Report

Commissioner Vasquez moved to approve the consent items, seconded by Commissioner Price. The motion was approved with the following votes:

AYES: Rowlett, Price, Shopay, Spering and Vasquez
NOES: None.
ABSENT: None.
ABSTAIN: None.

8. BUSINESS ITEMS

A. LAFCO Project No. 2018-03: Reclamation Districts Municipal Service Review (MSR) and Sphere of Influence (SOI) Update Public Review Draft and Presentation - The Commission will RECEIVE the Draft Reclamation Districts Municipal Service Review and OPEN for a 30-day public review comment period. California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) exempt under Class 6 categorical exemption (Section 15306 – Information Collection).

Executive Officer Rich Seithel introduced the item.

Gary Craft, Principal, Craft Consulting Group, provided an overview of the Draft Reclamation Districts Municipal Service Review under LAFCO Project No. 2018-03: Reclamation Districts Municipal Service Review (MSR) and Sphere of Influence (SOI).

Commissioner Vasquez asked if the Lookout Project was located in Reclamation District (RD) 2098.

Mr. Craft noted that he believed it was part of this RD.

Commissioner Vasquez noted that the state controlled the project and intended to flood the area.

Alternate Commissioner Kott asked about remediation for those districts not in compliance for acceptable levels of maintenance.

Mr. Craft provided information on regulations of reclamation districts, noting that there were competing standards causing challenges for districts.

Commissioner Vasquez commented on the costs to repair and improve levees, noting the RDs were having to compete statewide for funding. He advised that this was a complicated issue looking at how to consolidate RDs while also looking at the purpose and needs of levees.

Mr. Craft provided information on the Suisun Marsh RDs noting that the districts were finding it difficult to take care of administrative duties and needed assistance with this. He then provided information on the Sacramento Delta RDs noting that there were many complex issues. Lastly, he provided information on state funding for levees.

Chair Sperring commented on recommendations that districts improve governance and financial management.

Mr. Seithel provided information on discussions about this and advised that Steve Chappel had been assisting. He noted that staff would be following up with the districts face to face now that the report was out.

Chair Sperring requested that a spreadsheet of all the districts that showed the current status be made available to the commission.

Mr. Craft advised that the report did have a profile and information for each district.

Mr. Seithel noted that assets would be added to the spreadsheet per Chair Sperring's comments.

Commissioner Vasquez commented on non-compliance of ADA standards for online records.

Mr. Seithel noted CSDA was providing webinars on this matter. He advised that staff would bring back the spreadsheet with the Final MSR.

Jim Waters, representing RD 2127, commented on the report and thanked staff for their efforts.

Commissioner Vasquez moved to accept the Draft Reclamation Districts Municipal Service Review and open the public review comment period, seconded by Commissioner Price. The motion was approved with the following votes:

AYES: Rowlett, Price, Shopay, Sperring and Vasquez
NOES: None.
ABSENT: None.
ABSTAIN: None.

B. Special District Risk Management Authority (SDRMA) Amended Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) – The Commission will consider ADOPTING a resolution approving an amended MOU with the SDRMA for employee ancillary health care benefits and AUTHORIZING the Chair to execute the MOU.

Executive Officer Rich Seithel provided an overview of the item.

Chair Sperring noted that this matter had been discussed in the past.

Commissioner Price moved to adopt the resolution approving an amended MOU with the SDRMA for employee ancillary health care benefits and authorized the Chair to execute the MOU, seconded by Commissioner Shopay. The motion was approved with the following votes:

AYES: Rowlett, Price, Shopay, Sperring and Vasquez
NOES: None.
ABSENT: None.
ABSTAIN: None.

C. Executive Officer's Report (oral report)

Executive Officer Rich Seithel provided a report on current activities and efforts for 2019.

In response to comments from Chair Spering, Mr. Seithel advised that staff would be looking at whether to utilize state legislation for island annexations.

Commissioner Price commented on his attendance at the CALAFCO annual conference.

Alternate Commissioners Kott and Smith also commented on their attendance at the CALAFCO conference.

Mr. Seithel advised that the next conference in 2020 would be in Monterey.

Commissioner Price thanked Michelle McIntyre for her assistance with setting up arrangements for the conference.

Mr. Seithel provided an update on the fire study and efforts by Citygate.

Chair Spering noted that there was a need to come up with a proposal for the fire districts to agree to first, to identify the changes that were needed, and to educate the public.

Commissioner Vasquez commented in agreement that there needed to be a countywide review of the needs of the fire districts. He then commented on risks of fires and noted it was past time to work on this. He noted the need to work with cities and agencies on how to put facilities around the county to defend against wildland fires.

Mr. Seithel provided additional information on discussions with fire chiefs.

Mr. Seithel provided information on other activities relating to Fairfield-Suisun Sewer District and AB 530, meetings with BCDC staff regarding the Suisun Marsh local protection plan and with SRCD regarding expanding their boundaries, and lastly on an office lease to extend the space lease with the County.

D. LAFCO 2020 Meeting Schedule

The commission received the 2020 Meeting Schedule.

9. CORRESPONDENCE

Executive Director Rich Seithel noted the attached article from The Sphere, *Journal of the CALAFCO*.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Sperring adjourned the meeting at 11:50 a.m.

Nancy Shopay, Chair
Solano Local Agency Formation Commission

ATTEST:

Rich Seithel, Executive Officer