

MINUTES OF THE LOCAL AGENCY
FORMATION COMMISSION FOR LOS ANGELES COUNTY

January 28, 2004

Present:

Henri F. Pellissier, Chairman
Yvonne Brathwaite-Burke
James DiGiuseppe
Jerry Gladbach
Carol Herrera
Beatrice Proo
Zev Yaroslavsky

Kenneth I. Chappell, Alternate
Richard Close, Alternate
Robert W. Goldsworthy, Alternate
Donald Knabe, Alternate
Cristina Cruz-Madrid, Alternate

Larry J. Calemene, Executive Officer
John Krattli, Legal Counsel

Absent:

Cindy Miscikowski

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The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m.

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Pledge of Allegiance led by Henri F. Pellissier, Chairman.

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On motion of Commissioner Herrera, unanimously carried, the Commission approved the revised minutes of the meeting held on January 14, 2004.

[Burke in at 9:06 a.m.]

4

The Executive Officer gave an update on Municipal Service Reviews (MSR) and Spheres of Influence. He indicated that on February 11, 2004 the Commission would have the final Azusa MSR before them for action.

[Yaroslavsky and Knabe in at 9:11 a.m.]

5

The Executive Officer reported on the plan of action for Los Angeles County Municipal Service Reviews. The highlights of the report are as follows:

- The purpose of the report is to depict the scope of the work required of LAFCO in order to implement and apply Section 56425 Sphere of Influence Updates and Section 56430 to 88 cities and 92 special districts.
- Los Angeles County is one of the largest counties in the nation encompassing 4,084 square miles of land area. With 65% of the total land mass in unincorporated county territory and the remaining 35% of the total land mass, located in the 88 incorporated cities.
- Los Angeles County has the largest population of any county in the nation. Approximately 28% of California residents live in Los Angeles County. The total population of the county is 9,979,618, with 8,931,001 of those people living in the 88 incorporated cities located in the county. So, while the incorporated cities make up only 35% of the county land mass they house nearly 90% of the population. Los Angeles County's population is projected to grow by 25% to 12,249,000 by the year 2020.

Minute Order No. 5 (Cont'd)

- In Los Angeles County there are a minimum of 40 cities whose present sphere boundaries are restrained from expansion due to coterminous boundaries with other adjacent cities, the ocean, national parks or other geographical restraints such as steep terrain. That is, there is little chance that these cities will ever annex any additional territory to their city in the future.
- LAFCO previously adopted an overall framework regarding MSR's & SOI updates. Given the large land mass of Los Angeles County, that framework envisions the creation of 9 regionally distinct geographical areas. That is, the commission has adopted a plan that is service specific rather than agency specific. Staff's intention is to prepare a master MSR for each of these regionally distinct geographical areas. These MSR's will include a review of all the services provided by the county, the cities, and all special districts in that regionally distinct geographical area followed by an updated SOI of each local agency in the region if required. Many of these cities will require an in-depth review of the services they provide. Some cities, like the 40 cities previously described, will require only a cursory review and may not require an updated SOI.
- Given the financial constraints currently facing all local governments today, including those local agencies that fund LAFCO's efforts, it is incumbent upon LAFCO to proceed in the preparation of these "regional area" MSR's and corresponding SOI's in the most cost effective manner possible. At the time LAFCO considers action on each regional area's MSR, staff will present its recommendation as to SOI updates on both the cities and districts located within that regional area. While it is incumbent upon LAFCO to be thorough in the preparation of these regional MSR's and SOI's, we need not spend unnecessary time or resources on in depth research of a city which has little chance of annexing territory in the future or a district that does not provide essential back bone services.

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The Executive Officer presented the pending proposal status report. He further expressed his concern over the lack of new proposals being filed with LAFCO and thereby having an adverse impact on the current and the next fiscal year's budget.

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No one came forward during the period allowed for public comment.

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The next meetings will be February 11, 2004 and February 25, 2004.

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There was no new business to be placed on any future agenda.

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On motion of Commissioner Gladbach, unanimously carried, the meeting adjourned at 9:24 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Larry J. Calemine
Executive Officer