

MINUTES OF THE LOCAL AGENCY
FORMATION COMMISSION FOR LOS ANGELES COUNTY

June 13, 2012

Present:

Jerry Gladbach, Chair

Richard Close
Donald L. Dear
Margaret Finlay
Gloria Molina
Henri F. Pellissier

Lori Brogin, Alternate
Don Knabe, Alternate
Paul Krekorian, Alternate
Gerard McCallum, Alternate

Paul A. Novak, AICP; Executive Officer
Helen Parker, Legal Counsel

Absent:

Tom LaBonge
David Spence
Zev Yaroslavsky

Lillian Kawasaki, Alternate
Judy Mitchell, Alternate

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The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m., in Room 381-B of the County Hall of Administration.

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The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chair Jerry Gladbach.

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The Executive Officer read an announcement, asking that persons who made a contribution of more than \$250 to any member of the Commission during the preceding 12 months to come forward and state for the record the Commissioner to whom such contributions were made and the item of their involvement (None).

The Executive Officer swore in members of the audience who planned to testify.

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The following item was called up for consideration:

Quartz Hill Water District – Sphere of Influence Amendment No. 2012-16.

The public hearing was opened to receive testimony. There being no testimony, the public hearing was closed.

On motion of Commissioner Dear, seconded by Commissioner Finlay, unanimously carried, (Commissioners LaBonge, Spence and Yaroslavsky being absent) the Commission took the following action:

- Confirmed the Quartz Hill Water District has been required to file a written statement with the Commission specifying the functions or classes of services provided by that special district and that the Commission establishes that the class and nature of services as specified in that statement are provided by the Quartz Hill Water District.
- Adopted Resolution No. 2012-29RMD Making Determinations Amending the Sphere of Influence of Quartz Hill Water District No. 2012-16.

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The following item was called up for consideration:

Quartz Hill Water District – Out-of-Agency Service Agreement No. 2012-17.

The public hearing was opened to receive testimony. There being no testimony, the public hearing was closed.

On motion of Commissioner Pellissier, seconded by Commissioner Dear, unanimously carried, (Commissioners LaBonge, Spence and Yaroslavsky being absent) the Commission took the following action:

- Adopted Resolution No. 2012-30RMD Making Determinations Approving “Quartz Hill Water District Out-of-Agency Service Agreement No. 2012-17.

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In response to a proposal by Commissioner Pellissier at the May Commission meeting, the Executive Officer spoke briefly about combining protest hearings for individual sanitation district annexations into one hearing. Based upon Commissioner Pellissier’s motion, and direction from the Commission, staff and legal counsel researched the law and determined that the protest hearings could be combined. The Executive Officer further indicated that the annexation protest hearings on today’s agenda would be combined into one hearing, and the practice would continue at future meetings. It was noted that the Commission Chair would still call for public comment on all annexations on the agenda.

The following items were called up for consideration:

- Los Angeles County Sanitation District No. 14 – Annexation No. 322.
- Los Angeles County Sanitation District No. 14 – Annexation No. 358.
- Los Angeles County Sanitation District No. 14 – Annexation No. 363.
- Los Angeles County Sanitation District No. 14 – Annexation No. 368.
- Los Angeles County Sanitation District No. 14 – Annexation No. 379.
- Los Angeles County Sanitation District No. 20 – Annexation No. 83.
- Santa Clarita Valley Sanitation District of Los Angeles County – Annexation No. 1032.

The protest hearings were opened to receive testimony. There being no testimony, the protest hearings were closed.

On motion of Commissioner Finlay, seconded by Commissioner Dear, unanimously carried (Commissioners LaBonge, Spence and Yaroslavsky being absent), the Commission took the following action:

- Approved Los Angeles County Sanitation District No. 14 – Annexation No. 322, Resolution No. 2012-04PR.
- Approved Los Angeles County Sanitation District No. 14 – Annexation No. 358, Resolution No. 2012-05PR
- Approved Los Angeles County Sanitation District No. 14 – Annexation No. 363, Resolution No. 2012-06PR.
- Approved Los Angeles County Sanitation District No. 14 – Annexation No. 368, Resolution No. 2012-07PR.
- Approved Los Angeles County Sanitation District No. 14 – Annexation No. 379, Resolution No. 2012-08PR.
- Approved Los Angeles County Sanitation District No. 20 – Annexation No. 83, Resolution No. 2012-09PR.
- Approved Santa Clarita Valley Sanitation District of Los Angeles County – Annexation No. 1032, Resolution No. 2012-10PR.

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The following items were called up for consideration:

- City of Santa Clarita – Annexation No. 2010-10 (Copperstone).
- City of Santa Clarita – Annexation No. 2011-20 (Vista Canyon/Fair Oaks/Jakes Way).
- City of Santa Clarita – Annexation No. 2011-03 (Elsmere Canyon).

The public hearing was opened to receive testimony. There being no testimony, the public hearing was closed.

On motion of Commissioner Dear, seconded by Commissioner Pellissier, unanimously carried (Commissioners LaBonge, Spence and Yaroslavsky being absent), the Commission took the following action:

- Approved City of Santa Clarita – Annexation No. 2010-10 (Copperstone), Resolution No. 2012-11PR.
- Approved City of Santa Clarita- Annexation No. 2011-20 (Vista Canyon/Fair Oaks/Jakes Way), Resolution No. 2012-12PR.
- Approved City of Santa Clarita - Annexation No. 2011-03 (Elsmere Canyon), Resolution No. 2012-13PR.

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On motion of Commissioner Finlay, seconded by Commissioner Pellissier, unanimously carried, (Commissioners LaBonge, Spence and Yaroslavsky being absent) the Commission took the following actions under Consent Items:

- Approved Minutes of May 9, 2012;
- Approved Operating Account and Check Register for the month of May 2012; and
- Received and filed update on pending applications.

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The following was received and filed:

Government Code § 56857 Notice:

- Independent Auditor's Report for Fiscal Year 2010-2011, as prepared by Vasquez & Company LLP.

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The following item was called up for consideration:

Award of Contract for Financial Audit Services for Fiscal Years 2011-2012, 2012-2013, 2013-2014, 2014-2015.

On motion of Commissioner Finlay, seconded by Commissioner Pellissier, unanimously carried, (Commissioners LaBonge, Spence and Yaroslavsky being absent) the Commission took the following action:

- Awarded contract for auditing services to White NelsonDiehl Evans LLP, at a total not-to-exceed cost of \$22,750, to perform an audit of the Commission's financial statements for fiscal years ending June 30, 2012, June 30, 2013, June 30, 2014 and June 30, 2015, with an option to extend for one additional year, upon approval by the Commission.
- Authorized the Executive Officer to finalize negotiations with White Nelson Diehl Evans LLP and execute the contract, subject to approval as to form by County Counsel.

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The following item was called up for consideration:

Request for Statements of Qualifications for As-Needed Alternate Legal Counsel.

Chair Gladbach asked staff to identify the most recent occasions when the Commission had solicited legal advice from outside counsel. The Executive Officer and Tom Faughnan (Legal Counsel) noted two occasions: one, the solicitation of an outside opinion on Proposition 172 allocations during the recent consideration of East Los Angeles incorporation; and two, the retention of outside counsel for on-going advice during Special Reorganization. Chair Gladbach expressed a concern about the potential for the Commission to retain As-Needed Alternate Legal Counsel, only to have the Commission seek guidance from this party on very rare occasions. Other Commissioners indicated their support for the concept, noting that the Commission's retaining As-Needed Alternate Legal Counsel would avoid delays if advice was needed quickly, and that the selection confers some intangible benefits upon the selected attorney or law firm.

On motion of Commissioner Finlay, seconded by Commissioner Knabe, unanimously carried, (Commissioners LaBonge, Spence and Yaroslavsky being absent) the Commission took the following action:

- Approved the request for Statements of Qualifications for As-Needed Alternate Legal Counsel.
- Authorized the Executive Officer to transmit the Request for Statements of Qualifications for As-Needed Alternate Legal Counsel to the 14 attorneys and law firms identified in Attachment "B", and to implement a process to evaluate the law firms that respond, including, but not limited to, requesting further information and/or conducting interviews; and
- Directed staff to report back to the Commission with findings and recommendations concerning the potential retention of As-Needed Alternate Legal Counsel at a future Commission meeting.

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Commissioner's Report

Chair Gladbach indicated that he attended a CALAFCO meeting where the Executive Director announced a new member of the Board of Directors, Michael McGill.

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Executive Officer's Report

The EO reported that Commissioner Donald Dear (West Basin Municipal Water District) was re-elected by the Independent Special Districts Selection Committee to a new four-year term as a Regular Member of the Commission, and that Commissioner Judy Mitchell (Rolling Hills Estates) was re-elected to a new four-year term by the City Selection Committee as an Alternate Member of the Commission. The EO introduced the new LAFCO Secretary-Receptionist (Patricia Wood) and indicated that a new GIS/Mapping Technician (Michael Henderson) was starting with LAFCO on June 18th.

The EO thanked Commissioner Gerard McCallum for assisting LAFCO in the recruitment and hiring of the new GIS/Mapping Technician, noting that Commissioner McCallum spent an entire day at LAFCO's office interviewing the six finalists for the position.

Chair Gladbach also welcomed Patricia Wood.

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Public Comment

None

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Future Meetings:

July 11, 2012

August 8, 2012

September 12, 2012

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Future Agenda Items:

None

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On motion of Commissioner Dear, seconded by Commissioner Finlay, unanimously carried, (Commissioners LaBonge, Spence and Yaroslavsky being absent) the meeting was adjourned at 9:27 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul A. Novak, AICP
Executive Officer

L: minutes 2012\6-13-12