



Voting Members

Donald Dear
Chair

Gerald McCallum
1st Vice-Chair

Margaret Finlay
2nd Vice-Chair

Kathryn Barger
John Lee
Robert Lewis
John Mirisch
Holly Mitchell
Francine Oschin

Alternate Members

Micah Ali
Anthony Bell
Wendy Celaya
Michael Davitt
Hilda Solis
Vacant
(City of Los Angeles)

Staff

Paul Novak
Executive Officer

Adriana Romo
Deputy Executive Officer

Amber De La Torre
Doug Dorado
Adriana Flores
Taylor Morris
Alisha O'Brien

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MINUTES OF THE LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION
FOR THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

November 8, 2023

Present:

Donald Dear, Chair

Margaret Finlay
John Lee
Robert Lewis
Gerard McCallum
John Mirisch
Holly Mitchell

Micah Ali, Alternate
Anthony Bell, Alternate

Paul Novak, Executive Officer
Miguel Dager, Legal Counsel

Absent:

Kathryn Barger
Francine Oschin

Michael Davitt, Alternate
Hilda Solis, Alternate

Vacant:

City of Los Angeles, Alternate Member
General Public, Alternate Member

1 CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 8:35 a.m. as both an in-person and virtual meeting.

The following item was called up for consideration:

- a. Commissioners request to participate remotely pursuant to Government Code § 54953(f)(2):

(None).

2 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chair Dear.

3 DISCLOSURE OF CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTION(S)

The Executive Officer (EO) read an announcement, asking if any Commissioners had received a campaign contribution that would require disclosure or any other issue requiring recusal from any item on today's agenda (None).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The EO announced that the agenda for today's meeting was posted on the LAFCO website on Wednesday, November 1, 2023; and posted at the Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration on Thursday, November 2, 2023; in accordance with State law.

4 SWEARING-IN OF SPEAKER(S)

The EO swore-in five (5) members of the audience who planned to testify.

WELCOMING NEW COMMISSIONER

Chair Dear introduced new Commissioner Micah Ali as the Independent Special District Alternate Member. Commissioner Ali's term will expire in May of 2026.

5 PUBLIC COMMENT

(None).

6 CONSENT ITEM(S)

The Commission took the following actions under Consent Item(s):

- a. Approved Minutes of October 11, 2023.

- b. Approved Operating Account Check Register for the month of October 2023.
- c. Received and filed update on Pending Proposals.
- d. Legislative Update.
(None).
- e. Received and filed the Executive Officer's Written Report.
- f. Information Item(s) – Government Code §§ 56751 (city proposal).
(None).
- g. Received and filed Information Item(s) – Government Code §§ 56857 (district proposal).
(None).
- h. Miscellaneous Communications.
 - i. Letter of September 26, 2023 from the Special District Risk Management Authority (SDRMA) to Chair Dear concerning five consecutive years of no paid claims.

MOTION: Finlay SECOND: Lewis APPROVED: 6-0-0
AYES: Bell (Alt. for Oschin), Lee, Lewis, McCallum, Mirisch, Dear
NOES: None.
ABSTAIN: None.
ABSENT: Barger, Mitchell, Oschin

7 PUBLIC HEARING(S)

(None).

8 PROTEST HEARING(S)

(None).

9 OTHER ITEMS

The following item was called up for consideration:

- a. Interview Finalists for Alternate Public Member and Appoint the Alternate Public Member.

Adriana Romo, Deputy Executive Officer (DEO), summarized the staff report concerning this item.

[Commissioner Mitchell arrived at 8:41 a.m.]

The EO swore-in two (2) additional members of the public (Alternate Public Members Finalists) who were not available at the beginning of the meeting.

The DEO, on behalf of the Commission, interviewed the following six (6) candidates:

- Denise Jackman (attended remotely)
- Elizabeth Clay (attended remotely)
- Frank Guzman (attended in-person)
- Wendy Celaya (attended in-person)
- Jim D'Addario (attended in-person)
- Odest Riley (attended in-person)

The Commission re-opened Public Comment; motioned by Lewis, seconded by Finlay, motion approved with McCallum abstaining (approved on voice vote).

Commissioners McCallum and Ali identified their top three (3) candidates.

The Commission closed the Public Comment period (voice vote).

The Commission moved back to Agenda Item No. 9.a. (Interview Finalists for Alternate Public Member and Appoint the Alternate Public Member).

Commissioners Bell, Finlay, Lee, Lewis, Mirisch, Mitchell, and Dear each identified their top three (3) candidates.

The Commission took the following action:

- Appointed Wendy Celaya as new Alternate Public Member.

MOTION: Mirisch SECOND: Finlay APPROVED: 7-0-1
AYES: Bell (Alt. for Oschin), Finlay, Lee, Lewis, Mirisch, Mitchell, Dear
NOES: None.
ABSTAIN: McCallum
ABSENT: Barger, Oschin

[Commissioners Lee and Ali left at 10:08 a.m.]

9 OTHER ITEMS

The following item was called up for consideration:

- b. Proposed Support of the Draft Los Angeles County Water Plan.

The EO summarized the staff report on this item.

The Commission took the following actions:

- Directed the Commission Chair to sign a letter to the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors in support of the Draft Los Angeles County Water Plan; and
- Directed staff to transmit said letter to the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors.

MOTION: McCallum SECOND: Finlay APPROVED: 7-0-0
AYES: Bell (Alt. for Oschin), Finlay, Lewis, McCallum, Mirisch, Mitchell, Dear
NOES: None.
ABSTAIN: None.
ABSENT: Barger, Lee, Oschin

9 OTHER ITEMS

The following item was called up for consideration:

- c. Notice Period (Cancellation Option) for Office Lease.

The DEO summarized the staff report on this item.

The Commission took the following action:

- Directed staff to remain in its current office space (through the end of the lease extension term previously approved by the Commission) ending in February of 2027.

Chair Dear indicated a motion was not required, but noted there was a consensus by all of the Commissioners to remain at the current office space.

10 REQUESTED POSITION(S) ON LEGISLATION

(None).

11 COMMISSIONERS' REPORT

Commissioner Mirisch noted that he attended the 2023 CALAFCO Annual Conference in

Monterey, and that it was a well-informed conference. Commissioner Mirisch announced that Kimberly Cox (San Bernardino LAFCO) was elected as the Southern Region's Special District Representative on the California Association of Local Agency Formation Commissions (CALAFCO) Board of Directors.

12 EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

The EO indicated that Commissioners were provided a memo which addresses the vote tally for the Independent Special Districts Alternate Member, and a letter from Executive Officer Paul Novak to Los Angeles City Council President Paul Krekorian, dated November 6th, requesting that he appoint an Alternate Member to the Commission.

On behalf of staff and legal counsel, the EO wished all Commissioners a happy holiday season.

13 PUBLIC COMMENT

(None).

14 FUTURE MEETINGS

January 10, 2024
February 14, 2024
March 13, 2024

15 ADJOURNMENT

Chair Dear adjourned the in-person and virtual meeting at 10:18 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Paul Novak, AICP
Executive Officer