MINUTES OF THE MEETING
EXECUTIVE/ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE (EAC)
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6, 2022


The Executive/Administration Committee (EAC) of the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) held its regular meeting both in person and virtually (telephonically and electronically), given the declared state of emergency (pursuant to State of Emergency Proclamation dated March 4, 2020) and local public health directives imposing and recommending social distancing measures due to the threat of COVID-19, and pursuant to Government Code Section 54953(e)(1)(A). A quorum was present.

Members Present

Hon. Clint Lorimore, President
Hon. Jan Harnik, 1st Vice President
Hon. Carmen Ramirez, 2nd Vice President
Hon. Frank Yokoyama, Vice Chair, CEHD
Hon. David Pollock, Chair, EEC
Hon. Sean Ashton, Chair, TC
Hon. Art Brown, Vice Chair, TC
Hon. Kathryn Barger, President’s Appt.
Hon. Peggy Huang, Vice Chair, LCMC
Hon. Cheryl Viegas-Walker, President’s Appt.
Hon. Larry McCallon, President’s Appt.
Hon. Donald P. Wagner, President’s Appt.
Hon. Alan D. Wapner, Chair, LCMC
Hon. Andrew Masiel, Sr.

Members Not Present

Hon. Rex Richardson, Imm. Past President
Hon. Jorge Marquez, Chair CEHD
Hon. Deborah Robertson, Vice Chair, EEC

AGENDA ITEM 3
REPORT

Southern California Association of Governments
JW Marriott Desert Springs Resort & Spa
Director Suite B
74-855 Country Club Drive
Palm Desert, CA 92260
May 4, 2022
Staff Present
Kome Ajise, Executive Director
Darin Chidsey, Chief Operating Officer
Debbie Dillon, Chief Strategy Officer
Cindy Giraldo, Chief Financial Officer
Carmen Fujimori, Human Resources Director
Javiera Cartagena, Director of Government and Public Affairs
Julie Shroyer, Chief Information Officer
Michael Houston, Chief Counsel, Director of Legal Services
Jeffery Elder, Deputy Legal Counsel
Scott Campbell, Assistant Board Counsel
Maggie Aguilar, Clerk of the Board

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable Clint Lorimore called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m. President Lorimore asked Regional Councilmember Jan Harnik, 1st Vice President, RCTC, to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Given the declared state of emergency (pursuant to State of Emergency Proclamation dated March 4, 2020) and local public health directives imposing and recommending social distancing measures due to the threat of COVID-19, and pursuant to Government Code Section 54953(e)(1)(A), President Lorimore announced the meeting was being held both in person and virtually (telephonically and electronically).

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

President Lorimore opened the Public Comment Period and outlined instructions for public comments. He noted this was the time for persons to comment on any matter pertinent to SCAG’s jurisdiction that were not listed on the agenda.

He reminded the public to submit comments via email to ePublicComment@scag.ca.gov. Board Clerk Maggie Aguilar acknowledged there were no written public comments for items not listed on the agenda.

Seeing no public comment speakers, President Lorimore closed the Public Comment Period.

REVIEW AND PRIORITIZE AGENDA ITEMS

There was no prioritization of agenda items.
ACTION ITEM

1. Findings to Continue Holding Virtual Regional Council and Committee Meetings under AB 361

President Lorimore opened the Public Comment Period.

Seeing no public comment speakers, President Lorimore closed the Public Comment Period.

The comprehensive staff report was included in the agenda packet. A recording of the meeting, including the presentations, can be found on SCAG’s website.

A MOTION was made (McCallon) that the Executive Administration Committee (EAC): (1) make the following findings required by Government Code Section 54953(e)(3) on the basis of the staff report, which is incorporated by this reference, that (i) a proclaimed state of emergency remains active in connection with the COVID-19 public health crisis, (ii) the EAC has reconsidered the circumstances of the state of emergency and (iii) state and local officials continue to impose or recommend measures to promote social distancing in relation to the COVID-19 public health crisis and, further, (2) authorize all legislative bodies of the Southern California Association of Government (SCAG), including the EAC, RC and all committees and task forces established by the RC or SCAG’s Bylaws, to utilize remote teleconference meetings pursuant to and in compliance with Brown Act provisions contained in Government Code Section 54953(e). Motion was SECONDED (Ramirez) and passed by the following votes:

AYES: Barger, Brown, Harnik, Huang, Lorimore, Masiel, McCallon, Pollock, Ramirez, Viegas-Walker, Wagner, Wapner, and Yokoyama (13)

NOES: None (0)

ABSTAIN: None (0)

CONSENT CALENDAR

President Lorimore opened the Public Comment Period.

Seeing no public comment speakers, President Lorimore closed the Public Comment Period.

Approval Items

2. Minutes of the Regular Meeting – March 2, 2022
3. Resolution No. 22-642-1 Approving Amendment 3 to the FY 2021-22 Overall Work Program Budget

4. Contract Amendment Greater Than 30% of the Contract’s Original Value: Contract No. 20-002-C01 Amendment No. 3, General Counsel Services

5. Contract Amendment Greater Than 30% of the Contract’s Original Value: Contract No. 21-054-C01 Amendment No. 2, Amazon Web Services (AWS) Infrastructure for the Regional Data Platform

6. Contracts $200,000 or Greater: Contract No. 21-047-C01 MRFP 14, Regional Resilience Framework

7. Contracts $200,000 or Greater: Contract No. 21-048-C01 MRFP 03, Sustainable Communities Program Parking Bundle

8. Contracts $200,000 or Greater: Contract No. 22-025-C01, Truck Route Study

9. AB 1944 (Lee and C. Garcia) and AB 2449 (Rubio) - Brown Act Reform

10. S 3649 (Padilla) - Transportation Equity Act

11. SB 942 (Newman) - LCTOP Reform: Free or Reduced Fare Transit Program

Receive and File

12. REAP 2 Program Development Framework and Process

13. Executive/Administration Committee Strategic Work Plan Progress Report Quarter Ending March 31, 2022

14. Purchase Orders $5,000 - $199,999; Contracts $25,000 - $199,999 and Amendments $5,000 - $74,999

15. CFO Monthly Report

Regional Councilmember Cheryl Viegas-Walker, El Centro, requested to pull Item No. 10 for discussion and reconsideration.
A MOTION was made (Brown) to approve the Consent Calendar, Items 2 through 11 except 10; Receive and File Item 12 through 15. Motion was SECONDED (Viegas-Walker) and passed by the following votes:

AYES: Barger, Brown, Harnik, Huang, Lorimore, Masiel, McCallon, Pollock, Ramirez, Viegas-Walker, Wagner, Wapner, and Yokoyama (13)

NOES: None (0)

ABSTAIN: None (0)

Assistant Board Counsel Steve Campbell recused himself from Item No. 4, as it dealt with the BBK contract.

Regional Councilmember David Pollock abstained from voting on Item No. 5

Regional Councilmember Viegas-Walker asked for support for Senator Padilla’s bill 3649 from [the Executive Administration Committee] and expressed how taking a watch position would send the wrong message. She provided additional information as to how this bill supported one of SCAG’s strategic goals.

Regional Councilmember Donald Wagner, Orange County, expressed his thoughts on following the committee process. He urged they consider the watch position taken by the Legislative Communications and Membership Committee (LCMC) to see what changes were being brought on by Senator Padilla to see if it met what they were trying to do.

Members entered into discussions regarding the direction SCAG should go in as far as Senate Bill 3649. Members expressed concerns about not following the committee process as well as the need to have a robust discussion at the Regional Council level. Furthermore, members shared their perspective looking at whether this [bill] supports their communities. A recording of the meeting, including this discussion, can be found on SCAG’s website.

Regional Councilmember Viegas-Walker made a motion to take a support position on Senate Bill 3649 and was seconded by Regional Councilmember Ramirez.

Regional Councilmember Wagner presented a substitute motion to adopt the watch position recommended by the Legislative Committee on a 10:2 vote and was seconded by Regional Councilmember Alan Wapner.
Members entered into further discussions.

Regional Councilmember Kathryn Barger, Los Angeles County, called for the vote.

A substitute MOTION was made (Wagner) to adopt the watch position recommended by the Legislative Communications and Membership Committee on a 10:2 vote. Motion was SECONDED (Wapner) and passed by the following votes:

**AYES:** Barger, Brown, Harnik, Huang, Lorimore, Masiel, McCallon, Pollock, Wagner, Wapner, and Yokoyama (10)

**NOES:** Ramirez, Viegas-Walker (2)

**ABSTAIN:** Robertson (1)

**CFO REPORT**

Cindy Giraldo, Chief Financial Officer reported SCAG maintained an open line of credit with Bank of the West, they did so in order to ensure they had operational liquidity. She stated they could be sensitive to this because of the fact they operated significantly on reimbursement-based grant funding. She stated she wanted to inform the committee they had renewed their paperwork and would be maintaining the open line of credit for an additional year. She also reported that as directed by [EAC] and the Regional Council, that they posted the draft fiscal year 2023 overall work program for public comment for the required 30-day period. She reported the 30-day period ended on April 3 and no comments were received.

**PRESIDENT’S REPORT**

President Lorimore reported they had a joint meeting with SBCAG on March 9th. He stated that SCAG and the Santa Barbara County Association of Governments held a joint meeting to discuss regional collaboration between agencies. Furthermore, he stated they had a robust discussion with their members about mutual projects of interest and legislative advocacy. He thanked SBCAG Board Chair, Das Williams and members of the SCAG Regional Council: Jan Harnik, Carmen Ramirez, Laura Hernandez, David Pollock and David Shapiro for their participation. President Lorimore also reported SCAG in partnership with CalSTA co-hosted a listening session soliciting feedback on the Proposed Trailer Bill Language for this year’s $1.2 billion Port Freight, Goods Movement Budget Proposal. The event gathered stakeholders from all over Southern California and state and federal representatives (DOT, CARB, CTCs, the Ports) provided insights on emerging and high priority projects for the region. President Lorimore announced they were less than a month away from
[SCAG’s] 57th annual Regional Conference and General Assembly at the JW Marriott Desert Springs Resort and Spa in Palm Desert. He stated this conference brought together state and local elected officials, CEOs, business and civic leaders, transportation and environmental stakeholders and local government staff to discuss solutions to the region’s challenges, look for opportunities for collaboration and inform their audience about SCAG’s major programs. He stated they would be unveiling their keynote speakers and notable guests to drive attendance. He informed members they should have also received a communications toolkit to help make their communities aware of this important event. Lastly, President Lorimore reported that the next meeting of the EAC was scheduled for Wednesday, May 4, 2022, at 3:00 p.m. and will be held at the JW Marriott in Palm Desert.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Executive Director Ajise reported on the progress of the EAC Strategic Work Plan. He also provided an update on SCAG’s Racial Equity Early Action Plan and stated they were working to shift organizational culture and had secured consultant support to develop and inclusion, diversity, equity, and awareness education training program, also known as IDEA. He informed the Committee of an update to the Public Participation Plan to include several goals and strategies to ensure that communication also has the equity framework assigned to it. He informed members that the RAMP-ATG would meet at least two additional times. Lastly, he informed EAC members that with the help of Senator Feinstein and Senator Padilla, SCAG had been awarded $480,000 in funding allowing cities to identify urban highways within the region to be converted to city streets.

First Vice President Harnik asked about the RAMP-ATG process and who had participated in the four meetings held in March. She stated she wanted to know if they were addressing the issues brought forth.

Darin Chidsey, Chief Operating Officer, addressed First Vice President Harnik’s comments stating there had been a series of meetings focused around policy framework. He stated the committee would be reviewing input received at the various meetings. He reported it was helpful to get out and have some better conversations and would probably need to continue that.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

First Vice President Jan Harnik, RCTC, requested they look into legislation being pushed forward that may hurt Southern California Counties by telling them how to use funds in their counties.
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Regional Councilmember Larry McCallon, Highland, made comments regarding Greenhouse Gas Reduction and how we would not be meeting necessary requirements because the federal government had not done its job of regulating what they have authority over. He stated there needed to be effort made to take on that responsibility or provide the funding to provide incentives to help us get to those goals. Executive Director Ajise thanked Regional Councilmember McCallon for bringing this up. He stated they would get a report.

CLOSED SESSION

Public Employment
Pursuant to California Government Code Section 54957(b)(1)
Public Employee Performance Evaluation
Title: Executive Director

Public Employment
Pursuant to California Government Code Section 54957.6
Conference with Labor Negotiators
Agency designated representatives: Ruben Duran, Board Counsel
Unrepresented employee: Executive Director

Scott Campbell stated there were two closed session items, Public Employment Pursuant to California Government Code Section 54957(b)(1) Public Employee Performance Evaluation Title: Executive Director and Public Employment Pursuant to California Government Code Section 54957.6 Conference with Labor Negotiators Agency designated representatives: Ruben Duran, Board Counsel Unrepresented employee: Executive Director.

President Lorimore asked if there were any public comments on the closed session. Seeing none, he closed the public comment period.

President Lorimore recessed the EAC into Closed Session.

REPORT OF CLOSED SESSION ACTIONS

President Lorimore reconvened the meeting of the EAC.

Assistant Board Counsel Campbell stated there was no reportable action in closed session.
ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, President Lorimore adjourned the Regular Meeting of the Executive Administration Committee at 5:59 p.m.

[MINUTES ARE UNOFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED BY THE EAC]

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