

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF THE MEETING
MARCH 30, 2009**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The March 30, 2009 Executive Committee meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Chairman Eduardo Garcia, City of Coachella, at the CVAG Conference Room, # 119 in Palm Desert.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Vice Mayor Beverly Mays, City of Blythe, led the Executive Committee in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL

A roll call of the members was determined as was a quorum. Those in attendance were as follows:

MEMBERS PRESENT

Vice Mayor Beverly Mays
Councilmember Greg Pettis
Mayor Eduardo Garcia
Mayor Yvonne Parks
Mayor Larry Spicer
Councilmember Ben Godfrey
Mayor Don Adolph
Mayor Robert Spiegel
Mayor Stephen Pougnet
Mayor Ron Meepos
Supervisor Roy Wilson
Supervisor Marion Ashley
Tribal Chair Richard Milanovich

AGENCY

City of Blythe
City of Cathedral City
City of Coachella
City of Desert Hot Springs
City of Indian Wells
City of Indio
City of La Quinta
City of Palm Desert
City of Palm Springs
City of Rancho Mirage
County of Riverside
County of Riverside
Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

2nd Tribal Vice Chair David Roosevelt
Tribal Chair Mary Resvaloso

AGENCY

Cabazon Band of Mission Indians
Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians

NON-VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT

Mayor Melanie Fesmire
Don Bradley
Tim Brown
Rick Daniels
Greg Johnson
Glenn Southard
Bret Plumlee
John Wohlmuth

AGENCY

City of Indio
City of Cathedral City
City of Coachella
City of Desert Hot Springs
City of Indian Wells
City of Indio
City of La Quinta
City of Palm Desert

David Ready
Patrick Pratt
Dan Martinez
Tom Davis

City of Palm Springs
City of Rancho Mirage
County of Riverside
Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians

STAFF PRESENT

Larry Parrish
Allyn Waggle
Gary Leong
Aurora Wilson
Katie Barrows
Jim Sullivan
Amanda Keil
Michael Shoberg
Jacob Alvarez
Joanna Stueckle

OTHERS PRESENT

Alibaba Farzaneh
Rosa Maria Gonzales
Dennis Green
Scott Heins
Steven Hernandez
Terry Kay
Arnold San Miguel
Jerome Sanderson
Anne Schneider
Joe Shaw
Todd Warden
Dave Willmon
Raymond Wolf

ABF Development
Imperial Irrigation District
Lan Engineering
BRH & Associates
County of Riverside
Sun CityPalm Desert
SCAG
Sun City Palm Desert
Willdan
Harris & Associates
SCAQMD
League of California Cities
Caltrans

4. FINALIZATION OF AGENDA & ADDITIONS AND REVISIONS

Item 11.1C - Consider Extension of Existing Contract with Newport Traffic Studies for the 2009 Winter Traffic Count Program was added to the agenda prior to the 72 hour Brown Act requirement.

IT WAS MOVED BY SUPERVISOR ASHLEY AND SECONDED BY MAYOR SPIEGEL TO APPROVE THE AGENDA WITH THE ADDITION OF ITEM 11.1C. THE MOTION CARRIED.

5. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBER/EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR COMMENTS

Councilmember Greg Pettis announced the SCAG General Assembly for May 7 - 8 in La Quinta. Councilmember Pettis encouraged Executive Committee attendance.

6. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

None.

8. ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES

8A Strategy for Dealing with the Stimulus Package - Larry Parrish

Larry Parrish reported that the Technical Advisory Committee met regarding the federal stimulus package twice. The County of Riverside took the lead in collecting project information from the jurisdictions and sent the data to the State for possible funding. Mr. Parrish stated that at this point we will have to wait to see which projects get funded.

9. ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES ISSUES

9A Consideration of a Coachella Valley Regional Baseline Greenhouse Gas Inventory Consistent with AB 32 and SB 375 and Authorization to Release and Request for Proposals - Katie Barrows

Katie Barrows reported on CVAG coordinating with the jurisdictions and AQMD regarding the green house gas inventory. Ms. Barrows also reported that this would provide information to establish a baseline on a regional basis. Ms. Barrow stated that the E & E suggested that staff look at the potential of having a regional green house gas inventory and what the cost per jurisdiction would be.

IT WAS MOVED BY MAYOR SPIEGEL AND SECONDED BY MAYOR ADOLPH TO:

- 1) DEVELOP THE PROCESS FOR A REGIONAL COACHELLA VALLEY BASELINE GREENHOUSE GAS INVENTORY;**
- 2) IDENTIFY COSTS, OPPORTUNITIES AND TIMING FOR A COACHELLA VALLEY REGIONAL GREENHOUSE GAS INVENTORY;**
- 3) IDENTIFY AND SECURE FUNDING SOURCES; AND**
- 4) PREPARE A DRAFT REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP), INCLUDING A SCOPE OF SERVICES TO CONDUCT THE INVENTORY.**

THE MOTION CARRIED.

9B Assignment of Obligations under a July 2007 Reimbursement Agreement regarding the

Coachella Valley Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan between CVAG and Riverside County to the Coachella Valley Conservation Commission - Katie Barrows

Ms. Barrows reported that CVAG obtained a loan from the County of Riverside for consulting costs and legal fees for the CVMSHCP. Ms. Barrows also reported that there was a potential for CVAG to begin paying for part of the loan prior to the due date. Ms. Barrows stated that it made sense to transfer the loan to the CVCC.

IT WAS MOVED MAYOR ADOLPH AND SECONDED BY MAYOR MEEPOS TO AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OR CHAIR TO EXECUTE AN ASSIGNMENT FROM CVAG TO CVCC OF THE JULY 31, 2007 REIMBURSEMENT AGREEMENT WITH RIVERSIDE COUNTY IN A FORM ACCEPTABLE TO GENERAL COUNSEL. THE MOTION CARRIED.

9C Update on Coachella Valley Energy Summit 2009 on Friday, April 17 at the Palm Springs Convention Center - Katie Barrows

Ms. Barrows gave a report on the upcoming Energy Summit and the call to action by the Coachella Valley mayors. Ms. Barrows invited the Executive Committee and their staff to attend.

This was a receive and file item.

9D Moratorium on Issuance of Certain Air Permits - Aurora Wilson

Aurora Wilson reported that there were critical impacts resulting from the recent State Supreme Court decision for a moratorium on air quality permits. Ms. Wilson also reported that the AQMD Legislative Committee would soon be meeting to develop language and work with legislators to author an amendment. Ms. Wilson introduced Mohsen Nazemi, Deputy Executive Director of AQMD, to give a presentation.

Mr. Nazemi gave a PowerPoint Presentation outlining the moratorium of issuance of air permits and how that impacts upcoming projects. Mr. Nazemi illustrated when emission offsets are required under federal and state laws and the type of projects that had been exempted in the past. Mr. Nazemi discussed the lawsuit against AQMD, and what the result of the State court action means. Mr. Nazemi gave a status on the permit moratorium. Presently 1,100 permits which qualified for offset exemptions cannot be issues without applicants providing emission reduction credits.

AQMD has appealed the State court decision and are engaged in mediation with the environmental organizations responsible for the original lawsuit. Also, AQMD has worked on proposed legislation to address the permit moratorium.

Ms. Wilson requested the Executive Committee support Resolution 09-002, to support the legislation. Ms. Wilson also encouraged each jurisdiction to consider their own resolutions supporting the legislation.

IT WAS MOVED BY COUNCILMEMBER GODFREY AND SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR

ASHLEY TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 09-002 IN SUPPORT OF LEGISLATION THAT WILL ALLOW THE SOUTH COAST AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT TO RESUME ISSUING AIR QUALITY PERMITS AND TO OVERTURN THE STATE COURT DECISION TO STOP ISSUANCE OF AQMD'S PERMITS TO CONSTRUCT THAT RELY ON EMISSION REDUCTION CREDITS (ERCS). THE MOTION CARRIED.

10. TRANSPORTATION ISSUES

10A Use of CMAQ Program SAFETEA LU Funds And Authorization to Conduct Call For Projects-Two Recommendations - Aurora Wilson

Ms. Wilson reported on last month's action taken by the Executive Committee approving the TAC recommended motion which sent both the County of Riverside and Palm Desert project dollars to the review panel for their recommendation. Ms. Wilson indicated that the review panel recommended that the returned amounts be combined and a Call for Projects be authorized for both the PM 10 projects and general project categories. The panel further recommended that \$1.1 million be set aside from the next CMAQ cycle for the City of Palm Desert's Bike Path project.

Ms. Wilson indicated that the issue went before the Transportation Committee where Member Dick Kelly requested the money come back to Palm Desert out of this cycle even though the project was a year away. Ms. Wilson reported that the panel stated that applying the money to this cycle would allow more shovel ready projects be funded. A discussion ensued. Mayor Spiegel stated that Palm Desert is requesting the funding be redirected to the Bike Path project. Patrick Pratt stated that he is part of the review panel and explained the reasoning in their recommendation. Councilmember Godfrey asked and was reassured that Palm Desert would have their funding when the project was ready.

IT WAS MOVED BY COUNCILMEMBER PETTIS AND SECONDED BY MAYOR MEEPOS TO:

- 1) AUTHORIZE A CALL FOR PROJECTS FOR USE OF CMAQ PROGRAM SAFETEA LU FUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,180,000 (THE COMBINED TOTAL OF CITY OF PALM DESERT'S AND COUNTY'S WITHDRAWAL OF TWO AWARDED PROJECTS);**
- 2) AUTHORIZE THE INCLUSION OF THE FOLLOWING PROJECTS AND PROJECT CATEGORIES IN THE CALL FOR PROJECTS:**
 - PM-10 PROJECTS IN THE CURRENT FOUR PROJECT AREAS OF: PAVING; SOIL STABILIZATION; WINDFENCING AND CLEAN STREETS MANAGEMENT;**
 - TRANSPORTATION CONTROL MEASURES: BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN FACILITIES PROGRAMS; CONGESTION REDUCTION & TRAFFIC FLOW IMPROVEMENTS: MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS FOR TRAFFIC CONGESTION REDUCTION; SIGNAL SYNCHRONIZATION; INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS; AND GRADE SEPARATION IMPROVEMENTS SPANNING RAILROAD TRACKS;**
 - TRANSIT IMPROVEMENTS: PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES AND**

EQUIPMENT AND INTERMODAL TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES AND SYSTEMS USED TO INCREASE AND ENHANCE TRANSIT RIDERSHIP.

- 3) **AUTHORIZE \$1.1 MILLION FROM THE NEXT PHASE OF SAFETEA LU FUNDS BE “SET-ASIDE” OR “EARMARKED” FOR THE CITY OF PALM DESERT FOR THEIR BICYCLE FACILITIES-MID-VALLEY BIKE PATH PROJECT.**

THE MOTION CARRIED.

- 10B Receive and File Presentation on Status of Interstate 10 Projects in the Coachella Valley by Raymond W. Wolfe, District 8 Director**

Allyn Waggle reported that the consultant Harris and Associates has been providing the interchange update, but that this evening Raymond Wolfe would be giving the report. Mr. Wolfe gave a PowerPoint presentation which gave the status of each of the five interchange projects. Mr. Wolfe stated that he and his staff would continue to stay on top of the projects and was commended for his report.

This was a receive and file item.

- 10C Consider Revised Construction Cooperative Agreement with Caltrans Authorizing CVAG Funds to Complete the Ramon Road-Bob Hope Drive/ Interstate 10 Interchange Project - Allyn Waggle**

IT WAS MOVED BY MAYOR MEEPOS AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER GODFREY TO APPROVE THE REVISED CONSTRUCTION COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT WITH CALTRANS AUTHORIZING CVAG FUNDS TO COMPLETE THE RAMON ROAD-BOB HOPE DRIVE/ INTERSTATE 10 INTERCHANGE PROJECT. THE MOTION CARRIED.

- 11. CONSENT CALENDAR**

APPROVAL

- 11A Approval of the February 23, 2009 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes**

IT WAS MOVED BY COUNCILMEMBER GODFREY AND SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR ASHLEY TO APPROVE THE FEBRUARY 23, 2009 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES. THE MOTION CARRIED.

- 11B Approve CVAG’s Commitment of \$30 Million of Transportation Funds to the Coachella Valley Conservation Commission**

IT WAS MOVED BY COUNCILMEMBER GODFREY AND SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR ASHLEY TO APPROVE CVAG’S COMMITMENT OF \$30 MILLION OF TRANSPORTATION FUNDS TO THE COACHELLA VALLEY CONSERVATION COMMISSION. THE MOTION CARRIED.

- 11C Homelessness Committee’s Strategic Plan to End Homelessness - Amanda Keil**

IT WAS MOVED BY COUNCILMEMBER GODFREY AND SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR ASHLEY TO :

- 1) APPROVE THE HOMELESSNESS COMMITTEE'S UPDATED VERSION OF THE *STRATEGIC PLAN TO END HOMELESSNESS*; AND
- 2) RECOMMEND THAT CVAG STAFF DISTRIBUTE THE UPDATED VERSION TO ALL MEMBER JURISDICTIONS FOR FILING.

THE MOTION CARRIED.

11.1C Consider Extension of Existing Contract with Newport Traffic Studies for the 2009 Winter Traffic Count Program

IT WAS MOVED BY COUNCILMEMBER GODFREY AND SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR ASHLEY TO EXTEND THE EXISTING CONTRACT WITH NEWPORT TRAFFIC STUDIES FOR AN ADDITIONAL ONE-YEAR TERM TO PERFORM THE YEAR 2009 WINTER TRAFFIC COUNT PROGRAM IN THE AMOUNT NOT-TO-EXCEED \$50,000. THE MOTION CARRIED.

RECEIVE AND FILE

11D TUMF Collections Report Fiscal Year 2008/09 - December 31, 2008

RECEIVED AND FILED.

11E CVAG Regional Arterial Program - Contract Status Report

RECEIVED AND FILED.

11F Update-Technical Planning Sub-Committee (TPS)

RECEIVED AND FILED.

INFORMATION

11G Executive Committee and Technical Advisory Committee Attendance Roster

This was an informational item.

12. INQUIRY ON ONGOING PROJECTS

CVAG staff will review, on request, any details regarding ongoing projects or groups.

13. ANNOUNCEMENTS

The **Executive Committee** will hold a Closed Session Meeting at **3:00 p.m.** on **Monday, April**

27, 2009 at the CVAG offices, 73-710 Fred Waring Drive, Suite 119, Palm Desert in order to interview Executive Director candidates.

The next regular meeting of the **Executive Committee** is scheduled for **6:00 p.m. on Monday, April 27, 2009** at the CVAG offices, 73-710 Fred Waring Drive, Suite 119, Palm Desert.

14. ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next meeting of the **Executive Committee** is scheduled for **6:00 p.m. on Monday, March 30, 2009** at the CVAG offices, 73-710 Fred Waring Drive, Suite 119, Palm Desert.

15. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Joanna Stueckle
Executive Assistant